

Summer 2017



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Newsletter of the German Language Division of
the American Translators Association



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Editorial

Dear Readers,

Have you ever done something quirky? Probably. But have you ever been paid to do it? Probably not. In this Summer 2017 issue of *interaktiv*, you'll meet a number of GLD members who translate in some pretty peculiar fields. How quirky you ask? Well, I'd say horse bits and Nazi looted art are odd enough. Don't miss this issue's feature starting on [page 14](#).

You may also notice something strange on the left side of this page. The *interaktiv* editorial team has grown. Call it a quirk of fate, but within just a couple of months, two GLDers—Ellen Yutzy Glebe and Jeanette Brickner—generously offered to join the team. Together with Lea Rennert, we've formed a four-person editorial board to develop ideas, coordinate each issue, and edit the copy. The idea to feature quirky specializations was born at our first meeting.

But there's nothing unusual about the first few pages of your GLD newsletter: GLD Administrator, Ruth Boggs, gives the latest "Word" on the division; we prime you up for our association's flagship event—the [ATA 58th Annual Conference](#)—including everything you need to know about the annual GLD networking event; GLD European Coordinator, Karen Leube, provides her latest report from "the Homeland" followed by an announcement of a new kind

of translator workshop that the BDÜ is putting on near Berlin in May 2018.

Once you've followed the twists and turns of our featured translators, you may initially find little out of the ordinary about our Translator in Profile, Jeanette Brickner. She has a language degree, she specializes in the automotive industry and she loves the freedom of freelancing. But this digital nomad exploits that freedom more than most. Find out why she calls Prague home and what she means by "translation tourism."

"I'd say horse bits and Nazi looted art are odd enough."

In this issue, we also have both happy and very sad news to share. First, we proudly honor Mandy Olson, who won the Gutekunst Prize of the Friends of Goe-

the New York. Then we sadly say goodbye to two long-time GLD members, Claudia Growney and Helge Gunther. Don't miss two moving tributes to two remarkable colleagues.

Per usual, we wrap up this issue of *interaktiv* with a review—this time of the Trilingual Swiss Law Dictionary—and the calendar of events, which is now also available as a Google calendar! Find out how to get connected on [page 28](#).

Mit besten Grüßen aus dem Rheinland
 Matt Baird

Listen to the ATA Podcast

Find all episodes and links to subscribe here:
www.atanet.org/resources/podcasts.php



A Word From the Administrator

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this finds you enjoying summer, whether you are traveling, spending time at the beach or pool, picking berries, slurping a tall Frappuccino, or working in your hopefully air-conditioned home office. The latter is a must in my Northern Virginia suburb of Washington, D.C. because once again, temps are almost consistently in the 90s and the humidity is brutal.

But not to worry—by the time the ATA 58th Annual Conference rolls around in October, we'll hopefully have beautiful fall weather! Speaking of which: Preparations for this year's conference are in full swing and plans are shaping up.

The GLD was allotted six conference session slots. We had eight submissions to choose from, with the GLD Leadership Council (LC) making recommendations and the conference organizer making the final cut. Our guest speaker will be Karin Königs, who I introduced in the [previous issue of interaktiv](#). You'll find our annual Conference Primer with the list of GLD sessions and links to the ATA58 website on the next page.

On the social side, we are quite busy planning the annual GLD networking event. I did some location scouting, Gerhard Preisser and I sampled some German fare (it was a tough job, but somebody had to do it :)), and we did a lot of brainstorming in our quarterly GLD-LC meeting. Our networking event is scheduled for Thursday, October 26, from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. It will be held at the Goethe-Institut, which is located at 1990 K Street NW, an easy 20-minute walk from the conference hotel.

"It was a tough job, but somebody had to do it :) "

We're bringing in a caterer specializing in German foods to offer a buffet dinner (think *Spätzle*, *Schnitzel*, *Brats*, *Krautsalat*, *Apfelstrudel*, and more!) There will be plenty of vegetarian options as well. It is very important to get a reliable head count early to keep the cost manageable. Therefore, we will offer an early bird fee this year. See [page 6](#) for more details and watch for an email soon from ATA headquarters as well as updates on the GLD list and social media.

We are looking forward to seeing you there—*leckerer Essen und gute Stimmung garantiert. :)*

Unfortunately, I also have some sad news to report. Helge Gunther, GLD Administrator from 1998 to 2000 and a dear friend and mentor to me, passed away on July 21, and Claudia Growney, a member of the GLD and MICATA, passed away on May 17, 2017. Read about these two wonderful women starting on [page 10](#). We will honor their memories and our thoughts and prayers are with their families and loved ones.

I look forward to seeing you in October in Washington, D.C. for ATA58!

Mit kollegialen Grüßen,
Ruth Boggs
GLD Administrator

P.S. As always, if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, feel free to contact me at rutheboggs@gmail.com.



Ruth Boggs joined ATA in 1991 and is certified in German>English & English>German. She holds an M.A. in Writing from George Mason University. Before becoming a full-time freelance translator & interpreter in 1995, she was assigned to the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. Ruth has traveled the United States extensively as a State Department contract interpreter. She lives in Fairfax, Virginia and can be reached at rutheboggs@gmail.com



GLD Conference Primer

Every year many GLD members present at the ATA Annual Conference and this year is no exception. Here's the list of sessions in the German track to get you primed and ready for Washington, DC. Find the complete list of conference sessions [here](#).

G-1 Translating Premodifying Attributes from English>German

Karin Königs

(Thursday, 11:15am-12:15pm; All Levels; Presented in: German)

Translating premodifying attributes from English into German can be tricky. On the one hand, an obvious alternative doesn't always present itself where a structurally analogous translation is not possible. On the other hand, a seemingly obvious word-by-word translation may be semantically incorrect. This session will offer an inventory of translating variants for the premodifying attribute. These can be examined one by one in cases where the translation proves difficult, so finding a good solution no longer depends only on the translator's intuition.

G-2 A Systematic Presentation of English Infinitive Constructions and Their Translation into German

Karin Königs

(Thursday, 2:00pm-3:00pm; All Levels; Presented in: German)

The various infinitive constructions in the English language, including the "with-" and the "for-" constructions, tend to be a challenge for English>German translators. Common participle and infinitive constructions will be analyzed on the basis of their syntactical function to show that they make up a comprehensive system of infinitive constructions. Simultaneously, when discussing each individual infinitive construction, the translation variants will be examined. Interesting parallels become apparent and, as a result, the range of translation variants narrows down to a manageable number that lend themselves to being systematized.

G-3 German>English Translation Slam

Matt Baird | Mary Burke | Ted Wozniak, CT | Heike Holthaus | Michael Martin

(Friday, 2:00pm-3:00pm; All Levels; Presented in: English and German)

Join us for a session of competitive German>English translation, pitting two pairs of translators against each other in a light-hearted linguistic duel. Will it be a bloodless battle? Fun will be the name of the game as we explore what are sure to be varying styles and savvy solutions to interesting translation problems. Audience participation will be encouraged, so come armed with your proverbial red pen, but be prepared to applaud your clever—and courageous—colleagues!

Roommate Finder

Use the **ATA Roommate Blog** to locate a potential roommate during your stay in Washington, DC. You may also consider contacting a local group or your fellow ATA Division members to find a roommate.



G-4 Passives, Punctuation, Particles, and Other Potential Pitfalls in German>English Translation

Geoffrey Cox

(Friday, 3:30pm-4:30pm; All Levels; Presented in: English)

Translating German texts into English poses a host of challenges, including both familiar and some less-than-obvious ones. This session will provide a practical, hands-on look at a range of subtle-to-glaring issues facing translators and editors. These include differences in syntax, verb tenses, conjunctions, punctuation, filler words, negation, false friends, and more. Attendees will be provided with some tools to turn good translations into great ones.

G-5 German Corporate Governance Texts: A Translator's Guide

Deborah Fry

(Saturday, 2:00pm-3:00pm; Advanced; Presented in: English)

Corporate governance is an important topic for language professionals, as it plays a major and growing role in management and reporting. This session will offer a translator's perspective of the subject using the German corporate governance system as an example. Attendees will be provided with an overview of basic conceptual issues, organizational structures, the statutory framework, and key documents such as the German Corporate Governance Code. Current developments and future trends will be discussed and practical hints on dealing with specific text types, weasel words, and other pitfalls given. A resource list and Q&A session will round off the session.

G-6 German Orthography: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Dagmar Jenner | Judy Jenner

(Saturday, 3:30pm-4:30pm; Intermediate; Presented in: German)

German orthography has always been a headache for many, especially after its reform in 1996. The speakers will open up their vast collection of ghastly spelling mistakes published in newspapers, brochures, and menus and discuss their relentless, if hereto unsuccessful, quest for a world with correct capitalization and no misplaced commas and apostrophes. Along the way, they will address tricky aspects of German orthography that might result in light bulb moments even for very experienced German translators and interpreters.

ata 58*
ADVANCED SKILLS
& TRAINING DAY

*Advanced Skills & Training (AST) Day takes place on Wednesday, October 25. A separate fee and registrations are required for each session.



View complete [Conference Schedule](#), now available on the conference website.



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Washington Monument



Lincoln Memorial



Smithsonian Institution

Annual Networking Event

Please join us at ATA58 for a mixture of business, pleasure and bratwurst! This year's GLD Networking Event will be held at the world-renowned Goethe-Institut on Washington's (in)famous K Street. In good German tradition, the food and drink will be plentiful. No Lederhosen required.

When:

Thursday, October 26, 2017, 7-9.30 p.m.

Registration Fee:

Before 10/15: \$65/person; this includes one alcoholic beverage (beer or wine) or two non-alcoholic beverages.

After 10/15: \$80/person.

Where:

Goethe-Institut, 1900 K Street, Washington, D.C.

Why:

Because networking is fun and pays off!

Who:

GLD members and guests

Buffet Dinner Menu:

Möhren-Lauchsalat, Krautsalat mit Speck, Gurkensalat
Bratwurst, Fleischpflanzerl, Wiener Schnitzel, Paprikagulasch
Spätzle, Gebackener Blumenkohl, Bratkartoffeln, Kartoffelpüree,
Leipziger Allerlei
Apfelstrudel, Schokoladenmousse, Rote Grütze

Payment:

If paying with a USD-check, please mail to:

Ruth Boggs
4111 Port Rae Lane
Fairfax, VA 22033

If paying in Euro, please contact GLD Assistant Administrator, Melissa Field, at mfield@g2etranslation.com for payment information.

Please register early because space is limited.

(Translation) Notes from the Homeland

Karen Leube

As the deadness of the school holiday sets in, the buzzwords here in the homeland are *Bundestagswahl*, Europe and integration. In stark contrast to the nervous aftermath of last year's Brexit vote and the anxious anticipation of the then upcoming elections in the Netherlands and France, the current tenor—here in Germany at least—is that the future of Europe is rosy. The “Pulse of Europe” movement, founded in Frankfurt and originally involving pro-Europe demonstrations in up to 140 European cities every Sunday at 2:00 pm, has now been scaled back to the first Sunday of every month. A testimony to its success?

With the huge influx of migrants to Germany nearly two years ago, there has been a boom in German instruction and so-called “integration courses.” A number of your GLD colleagues have volunteered as instructors. The first success stories of refugees (“Geflüchtete”) completing *Ausbildungen* and entering the workforce are making the news, albeit alongside steadily growing headlines of deportation cases. US-German relations are certainly not so rosy. Images of Chancellor Merkel's quizzical expressions during her White House visit in March went viral. The G20 meeting in Hamburg, which framed President Trump's first visit to Germany, was met with protest, some of it violent.

Away from the political arena, however, collaborative efforts between GLD and BDÜ (*Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer*) demonstrate that transatlantic relations are alive and well. For one, GLD members Matt Baird and I have been advising BDÜ on the association's first translation master class for German>English and English>German translators, to be held outside

“The current tenor—here in Germany at least—is that the future of Europe is rosy.”

Berlin from May 29 to 31, 2018. See the save-the-date announcement, which appeared in the latest issue of *MDÜ*, BDÜ's member magazine, on the next page. We hope to see lots of you there!

Berlin will also play host to our Fifth Annual GLD Members in Europe Workshop on February 3, 2018, with social events on Friday and Sunday. We'll gather in the aptly named “*Saal der Begegnung*” at *Myer's Hotel in Prenzlauer Berg*. While there are other hotels within walking distance,

Myer's offers competitive prices for clean, bright, comfortable and (relatively) spacious rooms. I paid a visit to Berlin in June and had a chance to visit the hotel with Kate Abbott, one of our on-site coordinators. It is charming and a welcome change from hotels such as the sterile Motel One that is taking German cities by storm. We hope to open registration soon, and we'd love to welcome stateside GLD members, so mark your calendars!

The next chance to meet up is, of course, in Washington at ATA 58—a location that is comparably more accessible and affordable for us Europe-based GLD members. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you here!



Karen Leube grew up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in German in the United States and obtained a Ph.D. in English and German as a Foreign Language (DaF) from the University of Heidelberg. She taught translation at the universities of Heidelberg and Mainz (Germersheim) and now works as a freelance translator and seminar facilitator from her office in Aachen.

Read about last year's GLD Europe event!

Fifth Annual GLD Members in Europe Workshop

Myer's Hotel in Prenzlauer Berg, Berlin / February 3, 2018

Registration opening soon!

Presentations welcome!*

Reserve your room today!**

*For more information, please contact Karen Leube at leubetranslation@aol.com

**A block of rooms (10 Komfort-small-Doppelzimmer & 10 Premium-Doppelzimmer zur Einzelnutzung) has been reserved at discount prices ranging from from €79 to €112 (breakfast included). Please reserve BY PHONE by October 31, 2017. Say it's for “Tagung ATAGD 2018.”

Translate Better 2018

Mark your calendars now! BDÜ is planning a master writing workshop for German>English and English>German translators near Berlin, May 29-31, 2018.

Being able to write well in your target language is arguably the most important tool in your translation toolbox. It's how you add value and set yourself apart. Now that artificial intelligence has a foothold in our industry, there's no time like the present to hone your skills and stay ahead of the game.

Be Better

Translate Better 2018 is a two-day translator training workshop set in blissfully secluded Landgut Stober outside Berlin that aims to bring top translators and premium instructors together with one goal in mind: to be better translators.

Top training by top translators

This is not another translation conference. This is a master writing workshop. A group of talented instructors will be on hand to lead hands-on sessions and classroom-style instruction.

Two tracks

The schedule includes two tracks of sessions to serve both into German and into English specialists. Our instructors will share their insights on crafting translations that don't read like translations, on good writing in a variety of contexts (such as business, financial, and scientific), on spotting nuances and tackling tricky syntax in our source languages, and more!

Eine frische Veranstaltung mit Klausurcharakter

The idea may not be a novel one, but Translate Better 2018 offers a breath of fresh air to the German<>English translation world. Leave your business hats at home and pack plenty of red pens. We expect some of the most dynamic translators in the industry working between German and English today to sequester themselves in this serene setting for two days of creative, intense, and inspiring learning.

Read more about Translate Better 2018
in the 3/2017 edition of BDÜ's *Fachzeitschrift MDÜ*



Amanda Olson wins 2017 Gutekunst Prize

This article was reprinted with permission from the Goethe-Institut New York. It was originally published on their website.

In 2010, the Goethe-Institut New York received a generous donation in memory of Frederick and Grace Gutekunst. A prize was created to identify outstanding young translators of German literature into English and assist them in establishing contact with the translation and publishing communities. As of 2017, the prize is supported by the Friends of Goethe New York.

For her translation of an excerpt from Rasha Khayat's novel *Weil wir längst woanders sind* [Because We're Elsewhere Now], the winner of the seventh annual Gutekunst Prize of the Friends of Goethe New York is **Amanda Olson**.

Weil wir längst woanders sind is a debut novel about a German-Saudi man who travels to Saudi Arabia for his estranged sister's wedding, published by Dumont Verlag in 2016.

Olson wrote the following on her experience of translating Khayat's text:

"A few things struck me right away when reading Khayat's novel and I relied on those first impressions to guide my decision-making as I translated. These were things I really liked about the book but they also turned out to be big challenges. It's a quick read, for one. Not because of some driving suspense or because the material is light—it's not. It deals with heavy experiences and emotions. But it's conversational and reads easy, and I wanted to replicate that ease. I was also struck by the contrast in style between the narrator's time in Saudi Arabia and his childhood flashbacks, one obvious difference being the amount of dialogue.

Dialogue is hard. By drawing on my own experiences of big family gatherings and pour-your-heart-out conversations with friends, I hoped to keep Khayat's characters relatable and authentic. At the center of this story is the experience of cultural disconnect. The differences presented were stark, yet I was left with the impression of the foreign as something familiar, a feeling I wanted to preserve."

"At the center of this story is the experience of cultural disconnect. The differences presented were stark, yet I was left with the impression of the foreign as something familiar, a feeling I wanted to preserve."

The jury, comprised of Shelley Frisch, translator, Tess Lewis, book critic and translator, and Michael Reynolds, editor in chief of Europa Editions, stated:

"In the estimation of this year's jurors, one translation stood out from a host of excellent candidates for its technical proficiency, for

the expertise with which the translator solved specific dilemmas and avoided certain traps, and for the translation's overall quality. Jurors were impressed by the vivacity and tightness of the English and the accuracy with which the original German text was rendered in English. The winning translation rendered the tone of the original in a way that showed great faithfulness and yet felt natural in the target language. What most impressed the jurors, as must be the case in a prize for translators who are at the start of their careers, was the clear potential of the translator who entered the winning translation. This year's Gutekunst Prize of the Friends of Goethe New York is awarded to Amanda Olson for her translation of an excerpt from *Weil wir längst woanders sind* by Rasha Khayat."



Amanda Olson holds a BA in German and Anthropology from Pacific Lutheran University and a certificate in translation from the Bellevue College Translation & Interpretation Institute. Since 2014 she has been certified as a translator from German to English by the American Translators Association. She works as a translator for German Language Services in Seattle, WA.

You can read Amanda Olson's prizewinning translation here: www.goethe.de/resources/files/pdf130/olson-amanda-translation-2017-for-website1.pdf

Remembering Claudia Growney

“Claudia, what I saw”

Chucho Marquez



I cannot recall the exact moment when I met Claudia. She probably would have remembered it to the last detail and refresh my memory as she always did. I am certain it was, where else, at the pod of cubicles we shared for ten years when I started working as a Spanish translator or, fancy that, Localization Analyst,

at Cerner's Global Translations Team in 2007. Claudia had started working at Cerner a few years ahead of me, in 2001, as a German Localization Analyst.

She had arrived to Kansas City via England and Arizona moving with an American family, The Turner's, in her capacity as an “au pair” for the family's children. This was a job she readily acquired after finishing school in her homeland, Germany.

I believe, somewhat knowing Claudia, that she took advantage of her living situation to perfect her English at UK and Arizona, continuing to do so in Kansas City as well. She was a great English editor. It was a delight, for me, to be the target of her editing skills, and I always made sure to thank her effusively every time she edited my work. She seemed a little puzzled, since she mentioned that “People do not usually take editing well.” Well, I appreciated the value of her skill and, with it, the gift she was giving not only to me, but to our colleagues and our business as well: an endless strive for a work well done.

Claudia had a wealth of knowledge in translation and localization, and she generously, and patiently, shared it with all her colleagues. She never seemed irked when I asked her even the dumbest question. She asked for the facts right away, “Did you check this? Did you try that?” without a hint of frustration. Then, she would help you analyze the problem, and even try to solve it herself if it was too challenging. I enjoyed reporting to her that I had found a solution, she listened attentively, and it was clear she was glad to hear the good news.

One day she told me that the German pronunciation of her name was just like the way I grew up pronouncing it in Mexico: “Claw-dy -aa,” and not “Clao-dee-uh,” the way they called her in the U.S. I think we bonded a little over that, and I was happy to address her that way ever since.

She became a manager at Cerner and was responsible for the German translation team, who cherished and respected her.

She invited or proposed me to facilitate orientation sessions related to translation, localization, and bridging cultures for newly hired associates at Cerner. We used to co-facilitate a session on translation and we would step in at different times to present sections of the class. I was the clown; she was the straight woman. She would queue me with a glance and, if I wasn't alert enough, she would continue right away, because time was not on our side. This makes me think of that “Gangnam Style” video where Psy, the singer, is boarding the subway and stares at the eyes of this young woman, “Hyuna,” and the video shows a rapid series of back and forth shots between

them at an incredible speed accentuated by a drum crescendo.

Speaking of crescendos, Claudia loved the arts. She volunteered as an usher at Kansas City Symphony concerts. She also held season tickets to the Kansas City Ballet, and was so nice to keep me in mind and pass them to me if she knew she was not attending a show.

I play in a South American music band in Kansas City. For a while, we were hired to play at The Plaza on summer weekends. Claudia surprised me at least twice by showing up with her parents, visiting from Germany, and her husband, Jim. That is how I met her parents, and, in truly Latino fashion, we even dedicated at least one song to them on the microphone, I believe I even yelled something like, "Viva Germany!" at the time.



Kansas City is not New York, Berlin, nor Mexico City, but Claudia squeezed the best out of it, not only of KC, but out of life. She worked very hard. There is this slogan that several companies use to motivate their workers, "Work Hard, Play Hard." Claudia did not play hard; she played well, with an overwhelming, intense, but very well organized and scheduled, love for life.

Occasionally, due to internal reorganizations at work, our team had to move to different locations. One time we landed in what I called "The Catacomb," a pod of cubicles with tall divisions and no windows, no natural light brightened our day. Claudia brought a beautiful poster of a white window framing the bluest of seas on the sunniest of days, and pasted it by the wall next to her desk. I would stand by her wall and let the "sea breeze" enfold me, which was a good way to survive the catacomb days.

Claudia loved the sea, she spent countless vacations at the Caribbean, and she even got married to the love of her life, Jim, at the beach in Jamaica. Together with Jim, friends, and family, she explored and enjoyed so many tropical paradises. She held in her hands or danced with all sorts of aquatic and land creatures during her travels, emanating happiness. She shared a picture of herself sitting on, I think, a crocodile: she holding its jaws with her hands (she told me later how this trick worked). She had a few seashells on her desk, mementos of her experiences, including a big pink conch like the ones used by the Aztecs, which used to blow them as horns, to call or perform rituals.

She invited me and my family to some of her birthdays, where we held animals at the zoo or painted pottery, things I've never done before, thanks to her generosity.

We enjoyed two world cups together from the office (if you don't know what world cup I am writing about, you have Claudia's and my contempt). She posted a sheet with the tournament brackets and we filled them religiously as the matches went on, we wore soccer shirts, we suffered the agony, frustration, and artistry of the plays and discussed matches in our little subsample of the world made up of our translation team. When Germany won the world cup in Brazil on 2014, I congratulated her and her team. She was such an avid fan, because she reacted as if I were saying, "Great job on putting that paper on the recycling bin," as if winning the world cup were an ordinary task that is normally expected to be won by Germany. On my side, Mexico, we have a little team with an inferiority complex that we call the "little green mice," (they usually wear green uniforms) because they have never amounted to anything in the world cup, never making it

“I remember her attending the national conferences every year and coming back to inform us about the latest news in the translation world, especially on the progress of non-human automated translation, where she assured us that us, humans, were still indispensable for deciphering the hues and intricacies of the human language to provide quality translations.”

past the first round of elimination. We did share the passion, but from different sides of the spectrum. It was fun.

Claudia was a devoted member of the American Translators Association (ATA) and its local Midwest chapter (MICATA). I remember her attending the national conferences every year and coming back to inform us about the latest news in the translation world, especially on the progress of non-human automated translation, where she assured us that us, humans, were still indispensable for deciphering the hues and intricacies of the human language to provide quality translations. This information always made me sigh with relief. She maintained her ATA certification forever. She once told me how she basically took a little wagon full of English <> German and Healthcare dictionaries to take her certification test when it was still done with pencil and paper.

A few years after I met Claudia, in came the big C, cancer. I admired, and told her so, how she approached this challenge with resilience, using all possible resources at hand. My niece, who succumbed to cancer a few years ago, had this motto: “I have cancer, but cancer does not have me.” I thought Claudia was the perfect embodiment of that expression.

If I had been in her situation, I would have locked myself and lied down on the floor in the corner of the darkest room I could find,

in a fetal position, scared, crying, and sucking my thumb. Claudia was the total opposite; she went through the corresponding treatments and continued with work and life as if the disease were just another factor to adapt to, like a heat wave or cold front. And she went on living with the same intensity, somehow carrying us with her.

She was an avid reader as well. She read all the Harry Potter books, and, just like Harry, she had several confrontations with her own Voldemort. She put on a good fight, she zapped away this mortal enemy many times, but it kept coming back. And Claudia was only human, a great, kind, and loving human, but, alas, human.

Claudia arrived on Earth in Salzgitter, Germany on September 24, 1971, landing on the hands of Martin and Ulrike Eggert Strangfeld. She left them, her husband Jim, and us, 45 years later May 17, 2017.

Claudia gave her love to all; she took everyone's love with her.

We kept a few of her seashells and a picture of Claudia and Jim at the office on a table top. The other day, I lifted the big pink conch and put it to my ear. I heard the sea; I knew Claudia was at the other end of “the line,” standing at the beach, not minding my call, taking it all in. I smiled.

This article was reprinted with permission from MICATA. It was originally published in the latest *MICATA Monitor*, the association's quarterly newsletter.

Helge Gunther – In Memoriam

Ruth Boggs

Dr. Helge Gunther, a former Administrator of the German Language Division, passed away on July 21, 2017 in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Wolfgang Gunther, two children and four grandchildren.


Born in Stettin/Germany, Helge grew up mostly in Berlin. After high school, she completed an agricultural apprenticeship and worked as an *au pair* in England, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture and a Master's Degree in Agricultural Bacteriology from the University of Leeds, and a Ph.D. in Microbiology at Queen Elizabeth College, the University of London.

She eventually moved to the United States with her husband and worked as a research associate in the Pharmacology Department of Yale University Medical School in New Haven, Connecticut. After a move to New York, she established herself as an independent scientific translator.

Her hobbies included gardening, walking, swimming, and snorkeling and she traveled extensively worldwide to over 50 countries to visit historic, cultural and adventure centers in all seven continents. She was also an avid computer user and kept in touch with her many friends on the Internet.

Helge leaves a large footprint in the American Translators Association. She joined in 1980, co-founded the Translators of Western New York (TOWNY) in 1982, and served as TOWNY Secretary/Treasurer, Chairman-Elect and Chairman.

She was a member of the Delaware Valley Translators Association (since 1988), where she served on the Board of Directors, as President, and as membership chairman. She joined the German Language Division in 1997 and served as Administrator from 1998 to 2000, and she became a member of the



*With Love and Memory
we say farewell to Helge,
wife, mother, and grandmother*

Helge Liane Gunther
née Hoffmann

July 27, 1928 - July 21, 2017

*Wolfgang H. H. Gunther
Rita Gunther McGrath & John McGrath
Matt McGrath, Anne McGrath
Bernard Gunther & Jan Gunther
Max Gunther, Zac Gunther*

Friends are welcome to join the family for farewells on
Friday, July 28 between 7-9 pm and Saturday, July 29 between 9-11 am at
Donohue's Funeral Home, 1627 West Chester Pike, West Chester, PA 19382.

Services at Donohue's on Saturday, July 29 at 11:15 a.m. followed by interment of the
urn at the Birmingham Lafayette Cemetery 1235 Birmingham Rd., West Chester, PA 19382.
Luncheon at the Concordville Inn, Baltimore Pike and Route 322, Concordville, PA 19331.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the
Neighborhood Hospice, 400 E. Marshall Street, West Chester, PA 19380

606 John Anthony Drive, West Chester, PA 19382 - Wolfgang@Gunther.com

Farewell by Helge for Wolfgang

*The dreams
The joys
The quiet hours
The troubled times
The paths traveled together
All woven together
Never to be forgotten*

Medical Division of the ATA in 2004. In addition to publishing several research papers in primary scientific journals, she also collaborated in workshop presentations on medical topics at the annual ATA Conference (1987, 1988, 1989, 1992, 1994).

During her term as Administrator of the German Language Division, I had the pleasure of serving with Helge as Assistant Administrator. Collaborating with Helge was indeed a pleasure because she was a joy to work with. Her infinite wisdom and knowledge, professionalism, no-nonsense approach, and easygoing "can do" attitude made for a great and productive working relationship. She became a friend, mentor, and inspiration to me. We stayed in touch even after our joint terms ended. I always looked forward to seeing and catching up with Helge and Wolfgang at the annual ATA conference, and receiving their Christmas greetings that included colorful photo spreads and entertaining accounts of their extensive worldwide travels.

Helge left us just a few days short of her 89th birthday. She will be sorely missed. Rest in peace, my dear friend. The ATA and the German Language Division owe you a debt of gratitude.

Feature: Quirky Specializations

Intro by Matt Baird and Corinne McKay

Translators and interpreters have heard it time and again. Specialize, specialize, specialize! While the usual suspects come to mind—finance, medical, IT, engineering, etc.—there are countless “micro-niches” out there, some of which are rather peculiar. Many GLD members are living proof, and we’re spotlighting some of them and their “quirky specializations” here.

“A micro-niche can be a way to stand out from the crowd, and even a way to score new clients.”

advice that I've given to students over the years, here are three potential strategies: (editor's note: we're reprinting one of Corinne's three strategies)

With the caveat that all of these have their pluses and minuses, let's take a closer look.

A micro-niche can be a way to stand out from the crowd, and even a way to score new clients. That's certainly the way ATA President-Elect, Corinne McKay, sees it. Here's an excerpt from her blog post [Finding our first translation clients: three ideas to introduce this issue's feature:](#)

“I know I can do this job, but clients don’t want to hire me without experience. So how do I get experience without experience?” This chicken/egg dilemma stymies many beginning freelancers, and it’s admittedly hard to find a way out. High-quality agencies often require at least three years of experience, and they’re the clients that many translators prefer to work for, so they receive lots of applications and can afford to be choosy. However, there *are* lots of other options, most involving excellent language skills, creativity, perseverance, and being able/willing to outlast the competition. Based on my own experience, and on

Cultivate a micro-niche and look for direct clients

The direct-to-direct client route can work. I wrote about it [here](#), and the comments were really interesting. It's worth noting that one of the most common comments from experienced translators was, "I started that way, and I wouldn't do it again, but it worked" (kind of how I feel about our fixer-upper house: never again, but it worked!). But here's my suggestion: **if you're a beginner, you can increase your chances of success and decrease your learning curve by targeting the direct client market in a micro-niche.** Pick a topic you know a lot about, and/or that you love to research. Then, instead of "translator with minimal experience, now serving Fortune 500 clients with an enormous risk of failure," you're:

- “Helping German companies craft outstanding press releases in English”
- “Helping ski resorts welcome Latin American tourists with outstanding Spanish web copy”

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- “Helping US-based Airbnb hosts appeal to Japanese guests with engaging property descriptions in Japanese”
- “Helping French universities expand their international programs with marketing materials in English”
- “Helping Italian cooking schools attract English-speaking participants with YouTube videos in English”

By targeting a micro-niche, you do a few things. First, you cut down on analysis paralysis because you know who to market to. Rather than wondering where to start with companies that need pharmaceutical translation, you make a list of cooking schools in Italy, or hot spring resorts in Japan, or horse breeders in Kentucky, or whatever your niche is, and you contact them directly. Second, your translations will be better because Facebook ads, attending trade fairs for that industry, and so on. It’s almost impossible you’re working in a small niche in which you

can become an expert (and don’t forget to work with an editor for direct client work!). Third, it’s easier to market a niche business through techniques that pull clients to you, such as an SEO-optimized website, Google or for a freelancer to budget for keywords like “German translator,” but niche keywords are a lot more affordable.

I’ve been thinking a lot about micro-niches lately, because one of my own micro-niches is helping French universities market their international programs in English. At the ATA conference, I was interested to see a few presentations on micro-niches (I went to an excellent one on [translating for the cruise industry by Jeana Clark and Esma Gregor](#)). Micro-niches can work well for experienced translators too, but I think that they are an especially appealing option for beginners who have some knowledge of, or interest in, a specific subject area.

“By targeting a micro-niche, you do a few things. First, you cut down on analysis paralysis because you know who to market to.”

Die Liste wo einiges los ist!

The GLD list is one of our member benefits – an opportunity to collaborate with and learn from each other. Subscribers pose questions, assist others by responding to queries or simply follow the conversation.

As Listmaster Gerhard Preisser puts it: *Wer helfen kann, hilft; wer eine Antwort weiß, hält damit nicht hinterm Berg. Kollegialität und Kooperation werden großgeschrieben. Die auf unserer Liste vertretenen Übersetzer und Dolmetscher konkurrieren nicht miteinander – sie inspirieren einander, und ich habe das außerordentliche Vergnügen, diesen regen, auf höchster Kompetenz und viel gutem Willen beruhenden Austausch moderieren zu dürfen.*

Subscribing is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Send an email to: gldlist-owner@yahoogroups.com
2. In the subject line, enter: **subscribe gldlist**
3. In the body of your email, write your:
 - email address
 - full name
 - ATA membership number



Abigail Dahlberg



Abigail Dahlberg was born and bred in the UK, and holds an MA in translation and interpreting from Heriot-Watt University. She worked as a staff translator in Germany for several years before relocating to Kansas City, Missouri, in 2005 where she serves customers in the German, Austrian and Swiss environmental sector.

Contact

info@printtranslations.com
www.printtranslations.com

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

I specialize in translating in the field of recycling and waste management. More recently, I have added wastewater treatment and drinking water supply to my niche. I also dabble in international development. All three fields overlap to some degree.

How did you get into this field?

I started my career in translation by working in a hybrid role at the German publisher for one of the country's leading trade journals for the recycling and waste management industry. I spent about half of my time translating texts written by German staff journalists into English. The rest of my hours were devoted to researching and writing my own articles in English. As part of my training, I visited waste management facilities from landfills to incinerators and attended trade fairs and conferences in a number of European countries, which is where I really became acquainted with the ins and outs of waste management issues and terminology.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

I really enjoy the broad spectrum of work that I handle within what is considered a niche field. One day I can be translating a contract for a packaging compliance organization and the next I could be working on a slogan to go on a bin. Another day might find me helping a company to put together an English version of its sustainability report.

Since every material and product eventually becomes waste, it is really important to know about materials and how they are made, too. I can be translating about plastics one day and scrap tires the next. A solid technical background is imperative, as is knowledge of the legislative framework in the EU.

"Since every material and product eventually becomes waste, it is really important to know about materials and how they are made, too. I can be translating about plastics one day and scrap tires the next. A solid technical background is imperative, as is knowledge of the legislative framework in the EU."

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

It varies a lot year to year. It used to be close to 85%, but has admittedly come down a fair bit in the past few years as I broadened my specialism to take on other jobs in an effort to offset the impact of the euro-dollar exchange rate.

Special resources you can recommend

The German Association of the Waste Management Industry (BDE) compiled a dictionary that was helpful when I started my career (German-English-French). It was last updated in 2005 but still contains some useful fundamentals.

An archived copy is available at www.ruesterweg.de/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Entsorgungswirtschaft-A-Z.pdf. I also track developments with subscriptions to publications in the UK and Germany, including *EUWID Recycling and Waste Management*, *Recycling Magazin* and *Recycling International*. Google News also provides me with a daily update of developments in the field in both German- and English-speaking countries.

Quirky Specializations

Ann Sherwin

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

Old German handwriting.

How did you get into this field?

I inherited a packet of letters my great-grandmother had received from relatives in Germany, which no one could read. It took me five days to crack the code with no resources to help, but I soon discovered there was a market for this skill.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

I've always enjoyed puzzles, and deciphering poorly legible script is like solving a double-crostic: meaning emerges gradually, often one letter at a time. I work primarily with direct clients who are incredibly loyal, treat me with the utmost respect, and never quibble over price or impose unreasonable deadlines; so pressures and risks are minimal. I have an endless supply of work and love the challenges that come with every new job. I still have to be a generalist in the field of old script, because it was widely used by scientists, musicians, artists, theologians, literati, you name it. Some clients know German and just need a transcription.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

Currently 100%, if you count the related fields of history and genealogy. I started as a generalist 34 years ago, but when I revamped my website in 2012 to focus on my specialty, I saw a major upturn in work. My intent had actually been to cut back, since my husband had retired, but I was having too much fun.

Special resources you can recommend

Google Books Ngram Viewer helps me avoid anachronisms. Geody.com is handy for

verifying an illegible geographical name near a known one. Though I rely heavily on search engines, I occasionally reach for a print resource such as my fragile 1888 edition of Heath's New German Dictionary, Haberkern and Wallach's *Hilfswörterbuch für Historiker*, or Grun's *Leseschlüssel zu unserer alten Schrift*. Anyone starting out in the field will benefit from Katherine Schober's **20 Tips for Deciphering Old German Handwriting**.

Anything else you would like to share?

Superlatives! Most boring: a diary mostly about weather (the duly warned client wanted it anyway). Most challenging: handwritten letters to and from physicist Paul Hertz about quantum theory. Most wearying: abstracting twelve 300-page semi-legible tomes of a travelog by a 19th Century German sojourner on the US and Mexican frontiers. Most heart-wrenching: letters from Jewish families desperately seeking to exit Nazi Germany. Most offensive: letters from a Jew-hating Nazi to a female pen pal. Most gratifying: a "life-changing" revelation for a 70-year-old woman in the UK. Written expressly for her by her paternal grandfather after her father's death when she was a baby, the memoir had been withheld from her by her mother and come to light decades later. Upon hearing all 40 pages of my translation read to her over the phone by her daughter (my client) as soon as it arrived, the woman felt loved for the first time by the father and grandfather she had never known. Later, my husband and I had the occasion to enjoy the hospitality of this family in Cornwall. Friendship is a side benefit of working with direct clients on such personal subject matter.



Ann Sherwin is a founding member and past president of the Carolina Association of Translators and Interpreters, ATA Secretary 1987–1991, and ATA certification grader for 15 years, all in the dim past. Today, she's semi-retired and does what she loves and loves what she does, especially if it involves family, food, or books. Look for her on Goodreads.

Contact via my website: asherwin.com

"I've always enjoyed puzzles, and deciphering poorly legible script is like solving a double-crostic: meaning emerges gradually, often one letter at a time."

Ellen Yutzy Glebe

**Dr. Ellen Yutzy Glebe**

studied history and German studies at Guilford College in North Carolina before embarking on the Fulbright year in Marburg that derailed all her future life plans of becoming a history professor at a small American college for the liberal arts. She returned from Marburg just long enough to complete her PhD in early modern European history at the University of California, Berkeley, and has now lived in Kassel, Germany, for over a decade. The longer version of that story is available on her website, along with an extensive portfolio and resource page for historians and translators.

www.writinghistory.de

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

I work pretty much exclusively on academic scholarship in the field of history, mostly translating from German into English with some editing of texts written in English by German scholars. I have worked on a couple of projects translating primary source texts dating back as far as the fourteenth century! I also do a bit of copywriting for an American press that is running a social media project linked to the 500th anniversary of Luther's posting the 95 theses in 1517.

How did you get into this field?

My academic background is in history rather than translation, so it is a natural market niche and one for which I am uniquely qualified. As an undergraduate, I completed a double major in history and German studies and, following a Fulbright year in Marburg, went on to get a PhD in early modern European history at the University of California, Berkeley, before I moved to Germany permanently. When I decided to explore the possibility of working as a freelance translator, I was extraordinarily fortunate to find a client right off the bat on ProZ.com who entrusted me—based on a sample one-paragraph translation—with her manuscript of 60,000 words!

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

I've been fascinated by history for as long as I can remember. As an academic translator, I'm generally not under a lot of pressure regarding deadlines (which can be a good and bad thing!). The projects are mostly long-term, which makes it easier to fit things in around my family. I enjoy this flexibility very much, but most of all I enjoy making scholars' arguments (at the very least) accessible to a new audience. My work as a translator is very collaborative, and I do believe that my clients' texts are improved considerably in the translation process as I point out

things that seem illogical or superfluous from my perspective as a reasonably informed, intelligent reader.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

In the long term, my goal is to specialize even further by working on texts in my field of history—i.e., early modern Europe and especially the Reformation. So far, such topics make up only a small percentage of my work, but all my work is related to academia in one way or another. In addition to translating books and conference papers and presentations, I also translate or edit the occasional application for academic positions or grants.

Special resources you can recommend

I have a page for resources on my website. I'm always surprised when German to English translators seem unfamiliar with the *Wörterbuchnetz* run by the Trier Center for Digital Humanities. It allows a search of twenty-seven dictionaries, including Grimm, and is a constant reference for me, especially when translating older texts.

Anything else you would like to share

Networking is essential! I enjoy translator events, but am also increasingly focusing on attending historical conferences, not only to locate potential clients, but also because it helps me think and feel like the historian I set out to be when I decided to pursue a PhD. One of my pet projects is to foster a stronger network of translators who specialize in academic literature. To this end, I run a Facebook group called "SOS! Academic Translators." If you would like to join, feel free to send a request, but please send me a private message, too, so that I know to take the request seriously! I have some new ideas about developing this network even further percolating in the back of my mind, and I'm always happy to hear from people one might wrongly think of as "the competition!"

Frank Dietz

Quirky Specializations

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

Computer and video game localization

How did you get into this field?

I worked for 4 years as an in-house German translator at Origin Systems, a subsidiary of Electronic Arts, where I translated such classic titles as *System Shock*, *BioForge*, *Wing Commander 3* and *Wing Commander 4*, as well as several games in the *Jane's Combat Simulations* series.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

The motto of Origin was "We Create Worlds," and that was true—worlds of fantasy with knights, dungeons and monsters, worlds of science fiction full of space battles, robots and mutants, and incredibly detailed simulations of jet fighters, attack helicopters or submarines that came with manuals of several hundred pages covering every technical detail. It was challenging and exhilarating at the same time, and you had to play these games extensively to understand their worlds.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

I would say about 20% of my work is still in games. Most of the games I translate now tend to be more in the casual games category, though.

Special resources you can recommend

Translation and Localization in Video Games: Making Entertainment Software Global by Miguel Á. Bernal-Merino

Anything else you would like to share

Shortly after I started at Origin, I first saw the 12-minute video intro of *Wing Commander 3*, a real film featuring such actors as Mark Hamill, Malcolm McDowell and John Rhys-Davies. My jaw just dropped. I felt like being in Hollywood in the very early days of silent film – the art form was still new, but one could see its great future.

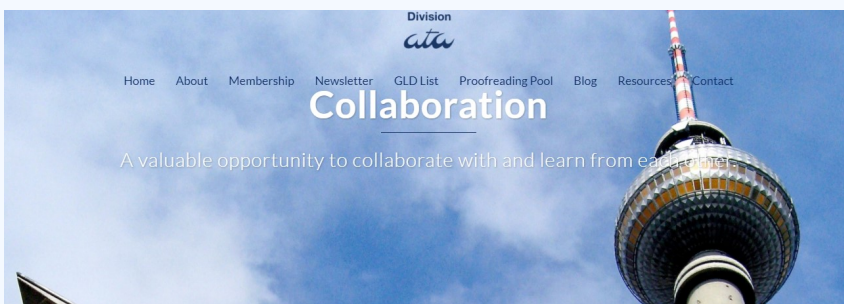


Frank Dietz was born and raised in Franconia, where else? He received a Ph.D. in English from the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, with a dissertation on utopian elements in American science fiction. After working at Origin, he specialized in software localization and technical translation, but in recent years has returned to translating science fiction, this time novels by "indie authors."

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I'm an English and Spanish to Swiss German translator and copywriter specializing in cosmetics, advertising and marketing. I hold a MA in Bilingual Translation and a BA in Multilingual Communication. Having lived in Zurich, London, and Bogota, I'm now based in Newcastle, UK.

You can reach me at hello@pout.ch. I tweet about beauty translation on @Pout_ch and about marketing and advertising translation on @DoubleDotTrans.

Jessica Lucio

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

I translate ad and marketing copy for cosmetics brands from English to Swiss German. It is mostly make-up, skincare and haircare, with the occasional perfume text thrown in.

How did you get into this field?

I became a beauty translator by chance really. When I started out as a freelance translator, the very first account with my first agency happened to be a luxury skincare brand. The projects were demanding but to my surprise, the copy came naturally to me. I kept getting similar work from that agency and over time, I built up direct clients in the cosmetics world. These days, cosmetics translation forms a considerable part of my work.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

Cosmetics copy tends to be both technical and extremely creative by virtue of the fast-moving, innovative nature of the industry. While you sometimes spend half an hour researching a newly coined term, it's often the case that you completely rewrite whole sections so the concepts and expressions resonate with the new audience. Challenges like those are what I relish.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

About 40% of my translation and transcreation work focuses on cosmetics.

Special resources you can recommend

To find out more about translating for the cosmetics industry, check out Angnes Meilhac's article "[A Closer Look at the Cosmetics Industry](#)" in the Chronicle. Karen Tkaczyk's ATA webinar "[Translating for the pharmaceutical, chemical and cosmetics industries](#)," also gives you a good introduction. If more informal resources are what you're looking for, we now have a dedicated Facebook group called [Translators Fashion, Cosmetics & Beauty](#).

For the creative part, you'll need bundles of courage and a good the-

saurus in your target language. I'd also recommend specialized dictionaries and/or glossaries for your language combination. Last but not least, don't forget to keep abreast of the latest developments in the cosmetics industry.

Anything else you would like to share

I've recently launched a second website to target direct translation clients in the cosmetics industry. I've used cosmetics imagery and made the copy sound like it's advertising a cosmetics product. Get in touch and let me know what you think of www.pout.ch.

"I've recently launched a second website to target direct translation clients in the cosmetics industry. I've used cosmetics imagery and made the copy sound like it's advertising a cosmetics product."

Quirky Specializations

Jutta Diel-Dominique

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

Horse bits and biting

How did you get into this field?

I have two horses and love horse-back riding. A few years ago, a former client of mine (and friend and fellow equestrian) was contacted by a large manufacturer of equestrian tack here in the US who was looking for a German translator for their new book on bits and biting, i.e. the metal pieces that are part of a horse's bridle—or headpiece—and that go into the horse's mouth. The

company was looking for a German translator who was familiar with "horse speak" and the various aspects of riding. This former client of mine referred me and I provided a sample translation which was then chosen by the manufacturer's German office. Once I was awarded the contract, I spent the entire summer researching different aspects of horse anatomy, how bits function and the unique philosophies behind the different bit models. It was a very rewarding opportunity to combine my love of horses with my professional life and seeing the efforts come to fruition in a book for the German equestrian market.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

This specialization is different in that not even many equestrians are that familiar with

the vast variety of bits and biting methods. Most riders only have a couple of bits to choose from for their horse(s)—if that. In addition, riders tend to favor one discipline (i.e. Western or English) so learning about the "other" side is not something that happens very often. Most of us tend to stay in

our comfort zone. For this project, however, I, an English rider who favors dressage, had to also familiarize myself with Western bits, and I have to admit I learned quite a bit.

I enjoy translating for the equestrian industry because I can apply what I know from working with

my horses in my spare time and in turn learn first-hand about new developments in the industry. The more I know, the less I know and the more I keep an open mind. And that is what it's all about.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

Very little, unfortunately. It is highly specialized and the need does not come up very often. I still work for this client on occasion but the assignments have shifted away from technical literature to marketing.

"It was a very rewarding opportunity to combine my love of horses with my professional life and seeing the efforts come to fruition in a book for the German equestrian market."



Jutta Diel-Dominique, an avid horse-back rider with a focus on dressage, obtained a Diplom degree (M.A. equivalent) in technical translation from the University of the Saarland at Saarbruecken, Germany. She currently lives near Denver and has been a full-time ATA-certified English>German free-lance translator primarily in the areas of medical instrumentation, general medicine, electronics, telecommunications, industry & technology for 24+ years. As a translator by education and passion, she became a grader for ATA Certification exams in 2001 and also served on the ATA Certification Committee (as Chair from 2006-2010). Jutta is currently the Language Chair for English>German. When not at her desk, she can typically be found in the saddle or at the barn, enjoying the company of her 2 horses. She can be reached at juttadd@estreet.com

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Loie Feuerle



Lois Feuerle, PhD, JD, earned her law degree from the NYU School of Law and her Ph.D. in German and Linguistics from the University of Kansas. She spent three years at Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel, Germany, studying German and law. She attended the seminar for goldsmiths at the *Sommerakademie für bildende Kunst*, winning that year's City of Salzburg Purchase Prize for a sterling silver box that she designed and fabricated. From 1996 through 2000 she was Coordinator of Court Interpreting Services for the New York State Unified Court System, and until 2008 she was Coordinator of Court Interpreter Certification, Testing and Training for Oregon.

Cont. on next page...

What is your unusual specialization or micro-niche?

Translations about Nazi looted art.

How did you get into this field?

Because my checkered career includes law school and practice as an attorney, a large portion of my translation practice has always involved legal translation. As a result, I started getting jobs from attorneys who were handling restitution matters, including those involving looted art, especially in the 1990s after the *Wende*.

But this particular specialty also aligns with my own background and natural interests. I studied art history and jewelry-making in college, and afterwards, too. I spent a summer in Vienna studying theater and art history, and some time after getting my Ph.D., while I was teaching jewelry and metal design in a university art program, I decided to spend the summer attending a seminar for goldsmiths at the art school founded by Oskar Kokoschka in Salzburg, Austria.

What is special or different about this specialization? What do you like about it?

In some cases, the sense of justice that a thing of beauty, lovingly collected, but then unjustly taken, is being returned—sadly not to the person from whom it was taken, but at least to a family member.

Another thing I like about it is the type of research I have to do—e.g., learning about what conventions are typical of the illustrations for the months in books of hours, and

what might be unusual, unique and identifiable in order to confirm that a particular book of hours is the rightful subject of a particular restitution claim. In terms of the books of hours themselves, there is an aesthetic pleasure in studying copies of the illuminated manuscript as well as an opportunity to look back at vignettes of what life was like at the time the book was created.

“Of course, one of the greatest dangers of translating about a subject matter in which you are personally interested is the temptation to continue researching long after you have found the answer to the particular question you started with—just because you are interested...”

It is also interesting to gain historical insights on how looted art was dealt with by the US Army Monuments Men at the end of WWII, down to the tiniest details, and even translating the receipts the US Army gave to the individuals who were in possession of art works that were suspected of having been looted and which were therefore being confiscated.

Of course, one of the greatest dangers of translating about a subject matter in which you are personally interested is the temptation to continue researching long

after you have found the answer to the particular question you started with—just because you are interested... The main danger here being that your interest draws you the next link, which reveals the tragic fate of the original owner...or alternatively—the sense of relief that an original owner survived.

What percentage of your work do you do in this specialization?

The volume has fluctuated wildly. In the early 1990s there was quite a lot of work relating to restitution claims in general—

ranging from a department store property located in what was once East Berlin to medical records to plundered art, but then as the 1990s progressed there were fewer and fewer jobs. But then in 2013–2014 there was a sudden resurgence of work related to plundered art following the discovery of the Schwabing Art Trove found in the apartment of Cornelius Gurlitt, the son of Hildebrand Gurlitt, one of the four art dealers chosen by the Nazis to sell art, especially “degenerate art,” abroad for foreign currency. This recent work seems to have had less to do with restitution, but rather has come mainly from clients interested in the whole phenomenon—the issues related to artistic patrimony and cultural heritage, the strange life of Cornelius Gurlitt, who managed to live into his eighties and not exist on paper! Since the resolution of the Gurlitt matter with his death and the decision regarding the validity

of his will, which left his collection to the Museum of Fine Arts in Bern, interest seems to have waned.

Special resources you can recommend

The internet, substantive art books, books on art history and particular artists – either purchased or obtainable at university libraries. And of course old-fashioned specialized monolingual and bilingual dictionaries. Over time the internet has been a real game-changer. There was a time when I would actually buy specialized art books, but that is no longer the case.

Anything else you would like to share

This has led to other art-related translations, which deal with art involved in bankruptcies, historical houses in Germany, and also catalogues for exhibitions.

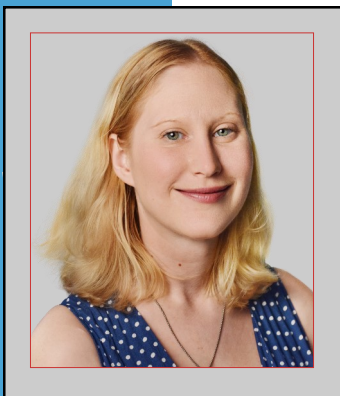
Previously she served as the coordinator and instructor in the NYU T&I Certificate Program. She subsequently taught the legal translation class in the University of Chicago's translation certificate program until, sadly, that program was terminated. She is ATA certified for German>English.

LoisMarieFeuerle
@cs.com

Translators are afraid of changes



Follow Mox's freelance-translator life at [Mox's Blog](#)



Translator in Profile: Jeanette Brickner

Where are you based and what brought you there?

I'm currently based in Prague, where I live with my fiancé, who is a French, Spanish, and Catalan into English medical translator. We've been there since October, and are still settling into our new base, but so far things are going well. It's situated very well for German to English, since I'm only four hours from Berlin, Vienna, and Munich; that kind of a central location doesn't really exist within the DACH countries themselves. We often attend a *Stammtisch* in Dresden, for example, and I'm able to go to events in Germany and Austria with ease. It's a big step from where I was living before; I spent three years in Bucharest, Romania, where I'd been recruited by a Romanian agency that had a contract with a large German automaker and needed native-speaking proofreaders. I stayed at that job for one year, then spent another two years in Romania while I learned the ropes of freelancing. But it was time for a change, and Prague has certainly been a great choice for my translation career so far.

What got you started in translation?

I graduated with an MA in Language, Literature, and Translation from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in 2011. I had done some translation and translation proofreading work as a graduate assistant in the Language Resource Center since 2009, but I hadn't really planned on going into translation at that point. I had wanted to do a doctorate in Central European History, and had been told that my application would be enhanced by

learning another Central European language, so I accepted a scholarship to learn Polish at Jagiellonian University in Krakow for a year. Unfortunately, I had some setbacks in my personal life and ended up going back to the States after only a month. An in-house translation job in Milwaukee kind of fell into my lap; I accepted it and spent a year at that position, and I discovered that a career in translation was a great fit with my skillset. The next year, I took the job in Bucharest, and eventually went fully independent in 2014.

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What languages do you work in and what are your areas of specialization?

I do German into English, and my main specialization is automotive. I also do marketing work, mainly aimed at direct client startups, and I also work in wind energy, construction, and tourism.

What do you like most about being a translator?

I love having the freedom to choose what you want to work on, when you want to do it, and where you want to do it from. I love to travel, and in the past year in particular, my fiancé and I have spent probably about 50% of our time on the road, first commuting between Romania and England, then attending a number of translation conferences and other networking events, and also taking care of things to get me my Czech visa, among other things. In fact, as I write this, we're on the train to Brno for a networking event, then going on to Budapest for the BP conference. So I like that our line

of work is something that not only can be integrated with travel but that, in fact, progress in connectivity actively facilitates and encourages travel. For example, more and more freelance translators, particularly in German to English and English to German, are moving to Prague because of the favourable business conditions there, as well as the ability to maintain close contact with Germany. It will be interesting to see how this trend continues to develop in the coming years. It certainly played a role in our decision to move to Prague.

What do you like the least?

The loss of WiFi at the German border. Kidding, mostly, but the flip side of being able to work anywhere is that you do tend to be limited by the need for reliable Internet access. I was a bit spoiled by this in Romania, which is one of the leading countries in the world for fastest Internet (in the areas that have Internet, at least, but certainly in most cities and larger towns). So it's something I'm very conscious of, and it always amazes me how much more difficult reliable WiFi seems to be in Germany compared to elsewhere in Europe. I remember I was on an ICE in 2013 from Hamburg to Berlin that had advertised WiFi, so I had planned my work on that assumption; I learned my lesson there. Just this last February, on my way to the GLD in Europe workshop in Karlsruhe, I saw that DB was advertising that it had finally gotten WiFi on all ICEs. Maybe they did, but there wasn't any WiFi on that

EC train yet. At least there is great WiFi on the ÖBB train we're on today!

What are your goals for 2017?

My main goal is to continue to leverage my new location in Prague to gain more direct clients, and so far it is going well. I had the opportunity to attend CeBIT this year for the first time, where I was able to meet a number of prospective clients and gain a better

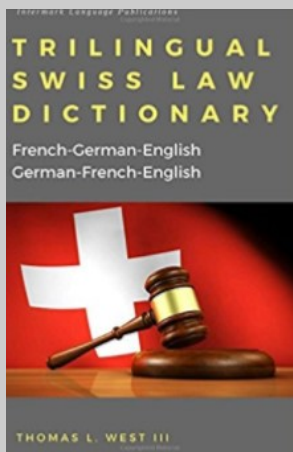
understanding of the type of work they are getting back from their current suppliers (mostly through agencies). I am also planning on attending the ATA conference for the first time this year.

What are your hobbies or other interests?

Well, as mentioned above, travel is a big one! We're particularly looking forward to a gathering in Slovenia later this summer. I also

particularly enjoy what I call "translation tourism," which involves visiting increasingly obscure museums to assess the quality of their translations (often with hilarious results). I also like to take day trips to various places in the Czech Republic to get to know our new home a little better. I enjoy cooking, and we're slowly expanding our kitchen equipment in the new house. Kayaking is another passion of mine. I've paddled most of the Mississippi River between St. Paul and St. Louis, and hope to someday do everything down to New Orleans. I grew up on the Mississippi River, and it's something that stays with you.

"I also particularly enjoy what I call 'translation tourism,' which involves visiting increasingly obscure museums to assess the quality of their translations (often with hilarious results)."



Author: Thomas L. West III

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Book Review:

Trilingual Swiss Law Dictionary French-German-English German-French-English

Christiane E. Bohnert

This Trilingual Swiss Law Dictionary fills a gap on the market, particularly for a Swiss German to English translator (I cannot speak for a Swiss French to English translator) who encounters Swiss legal terms, which come from a tradition that has developed separately from Standard German legal terminology. Some terms, such as “Kassationshof” or “Kassationsgericht,” at first take the non-Swiss German reader aback, even though they are part of the Duden lexicon. However, Duden does not provide the French, let alone the English, connection. Having a central repository to look up Swiss terms in three languages alongside each other is a great advantage.

In his foreword, Tom West outlines the reason for his dictionary, which is the dearth or opacity of sources. A dictionary published in 1996 is dissed by even a Swiss government translator as “unbrauchbar,” and the Swiss government’s database at www.termdat.ch is largely based on a dictionary from the 1940s. The Swiss government’s publication of its major codes in English is very helpful, as I well know, but requires time-consuming research within these codes. The author also emphasizes that he uses American English, which may sometimes conflict with the British English translations that are used in Switzerland and in the EU. Finally, he invites the reader to send comments and

corrections to dictionary@intermarkls.com, which can be considered fairly easy to do thanks to the digital age.

I suppose that in such a sizeable work there will always be room for disagreement. On the one hand, I am enthusiastic to have learned a new and arcane word, “Entreichung;” on the other, following research, I do not agree with the English translation “impoverishment,” as Entreichung is not the opposite of “Bereicherung” (in the context of “ungerechtfertigte Bereicherung” or “unjust enrichment”), but rather means the loss of enrichment (or, in British English, “disenrichment”), which leads to an arguable defense (“Einrede der Entreichung”).

Like most compound words with “Kollektiv-,” the term “Kollektivarbeitsstreitigkeit” (in Standard German usage, a “Tarifkonflikt”) is Swiss, although the dictionary does not identify it as such. Perhaps this term should be joined in the dictionary by “Kollektivvertrag,” the Swiss term for “Tarifvertrag” that even in Duden is not identified as specifically Swiss, but which is not used in Standard German in the specific sense of “Tarifvertrag,” as far as I am aware. Another word in the context of “Kollektiv-” is the “Kollektivanlage,” which is “collective investment” in US English, at least as the

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author has translated it. However, in EU German, this term is known as “Organismus für gemeinsame Anlagen,” and perhaps that should have been mentioned, as the Swiss investment industry has strong ties to the EU.

In this context, there is also a certain movement toward the German “Gemeinsprache” as opposed to “Helvetismen.” Thus the Swiss “Obligationenrecht” (referred to as “Schuldrecht” in Germany) uses “Wertpapiere” for “securities” rather than the traditional Swiss term “Wertschriften.”

For translators from English into German, this dictionary is above all a good way to get a feeling for the differences of Swiss German. It could easily be more if it were available as an e-book with full-text search enabled. If that were the case, translators in this direction could also benefit from this wonderful compilation of Swiss legal terms. Perhaps that is something the author will consider at some point in the future.

The availability of this trilingual dictionary reminds a translator from English into German of the desirability of a new bilingual English to German legal dictionary. As Tom West notes, Swiss terminology is not seriously considered by Romaine (and, I might add, Dietl-Lorenz). However, even for German legal terminology, Romaine is hopelessly outdated if one considers the developments in German and EU law since 2000, while Dietl-Lorenz in its version available for download as of last year combines a revised 7th edition of the English to German dictionary from 2016 with the old 5th edition of the German to English from 2005).

These absences emphasize Tom West’s achievement: a Swiss Trilingual Legal Dictionary that can serve both as a reference work and as an introduction to Swiss legal terminology. If your translation work involves Swiss legal terminology, this dictionary is a valuable asset for you.



Christiane E. Bohnert is an ATA-certified Translator EN>DE (1994) and Staatlich geprüfte Übersetzerin DE>EN (2008). She works as a financial and legal translator, freelancing since 1994. She specializes in investment, accounting, contracts, and complaints. Further specializations include economic sciences, politics, and history. She finished her studies in Mainz in German literature, history, and philosophy with a doctorate in 1982. Her career in academia included a doctoral fellowship from the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, research for her dissertation at the University of California, San Diego, and a Charles-Phelps-Taft post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Cincinnati. She lives in St. Louis, Missouri. Her email address is drbohnert@aol.com.

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Calendar of Events 2017

The GLD calendar is now available on the GLD website, where you can also add it to your Google calendar. Go to: www.ata-divisions.org/GLD/gld-calendar/

Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
25 – 26 Aug	Osnabrück (Germany)	Übersetzen wissenschaftlicher und populärwissenschaftlicher Texte im Sprachenpaar Englisch-Deutsch	seminare.bdue.de/
1 – 3 Sep	Hamburg (Germany)	Kongress zu Kriminalliteratur: <i>Konferenz „Krimis machen 3 – Das Verbrechen“</i>	krimismachen.wordpress.com
4 – 8 Sep	Leuven (Belgium)	2nd International Summer School in Translation Technology	www.arts.kuleuven.be/conference/transtech-summer-school
7 – 9 Sep	Freiburg (Germany)	Language and Law in a World of Media, Globalization and Social Conflicts (International Language and Law Association (ILLA))	illa.online/relaunch-conference-2017
15 – 16 Sep	Lódź (Poland)	Teaching Translating and Interpreting (TTI 5)	tti.uni.lodz.pl/
29 – 30 Sep	Cologne (Germany)	Translation – Transkreation: Vom Über-Setzen zum Über-Texten	seminare.bdue.de/
22 – 24 Sep	Chester (UK)	Anglophoner Tag (ITI German Network) <i>Thema: Food for Thought</i>	iti-gernet.mitingu.com/anglophoner-tag-2017
5 – 7 Oct	Granada (Spain)	Third International Conference on Interpreting Quality	qinv.ugr.es/iciq3-en.htm
5 – 8 Oct	Minneapolis, Minnesota (USA)	Alta40 Conference	www.literarytranslators.org/conference
6 – 7 Oct	Munich (Germany)	Kombiseminar: Deutscher und englischer Technikjargon und Einführung in die Elektrotechnik – sprachunabhängig	seminare.bdue.de/
6 – 8 Oct	Hameln (Germany)	Seminarwochenende Gynäkologie (Medizin) am Sana Klinikum Hameln	seminare.bdue.de/
7 – 8 Oct	Berlin (Germany)	Translating Life Sciences – biochemische Grundkenntnisse für das Übersetzen von Fachtexten	seminare.bdue.de/
12 – 13 Oct	Bucharest (Romania)	Elia Networking Days	elia-association.org/our-events/

Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
13 Oct	Cologne (Germany)	DTT-Grundlagenseminar: „Terminologiearbeit – Grundlagen, Werkzeuge, Prozesse“	dttev.org/
14 – 15 Oct	Hannover (Germany)	6. BDÜ-Fachkonferenz Sprache und Recht	www.fsr2017.de/
20 – 21 Oct	Hannover (Germany)	Einstieg in das Lektorat	seminare.bdue.de/
21 – 22 Oct	Heidelberg (Germany)	Energietechnik: Windkraftanlagen und Biogas/Biomasse	seminare.bdue.de/
24 – 26 Oct	Stuttgart (Germany)	TCWorld Conference 2017	conferences.tekom.de/
25 – 28 Oct	Washington, DC (USA)	58th ATA Annual Conference	www.atanet.org/
28 – 29 Oct	Speyer (Germany)	Grundlagen der Onkologie	seminare.bdue.de/
30 Oct	Washington, DC (USA)	InterpretAmerica Summit	www.interpretamerica.com/
1 – 3 Nov	Santa Clara, CA (USA)	LocWorld35	locworld.com/
3 – 4 Nov	Berlin (Germany)	Englischsprachiger Technik-Jargon. Aufbau-seminar für Übersetzer und Dolmetscher	seminare.bdue.de/

What's all the talk about?

Join ATAtalk and find out! ATA recently launched [ataTalk](#), a forum for discussions of ATA policy, activities, and governance issues. It's a place where members can voice opinions and discuss issues. Note that questions and problems that need to be addressed right away should continue to be directed to president@atanet.org.



ATA Certification Exams

The ATA generally has 30-40 exam sittings each year. Please visit the ATA Certification Program page on the ATA website for the most up-to-date list:

www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming.php

Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
3 – 4 Nov	Erfurt (Germany)	Aufbauseminar Typisch Englisch – typisch Deutsch III: Der letzte Schliff	seminare.bdue.de/
3 – 4 Nov	Berlin (German)	Englischsprachiger Technik-Jargon. Aufbauseminar für Übersetzer und Dolmetscher	seminare.bdue.de/
6 – 7 Nov	Brussels (Belgium)	Translating Europe Forum 2017	ec.europa.eu/
10 – 11 Nov	Erfurt (Germany)	Zauberwort Textsorte – erkennen, schreiben, redigieren	seminare.bdue.de/
11 – 12 Nov	Heidelberg (Germany)	Energietechnik: Green Building & Smart Home	seminare.bdue.de/
16 – 17 Nov	London (UK)	Translating and the Computer 39	www.asling.org/tc39/
17 – 18 Nov	Karlsruhe (Germany)	Kombiseminar: Finanzmarktwissen für Übersetzer & Ausweis von Finanzinstrumenten nach IAS/IFRS	seminare.bdue.de/
17 – 18 Nov	Munich (Germany)	Einstieg ins Lektorat Workshop	seminare.bdue.de/
20 – 23 Nov	Lisbon (Portugal)	1st International Caparica Conference in Translational Forensics	www.forensics2017.com
21 – 22 Nov	Frankfurt/Main (Germany)	Aussprachetraining Deutsch für Dolmetscher/ Übersetzer und Dolmetscherinnen/ Übersetzerinnen, die Deutsch nicht als Muttersprache sprechen	seminare.bdue.de/
24 – 25 Nov	Berlin (Germany)	Workshop Post-Editing	seminare.bdue.de/
25 – 26 Nov	Karlsruhe (Germany)	Grundlagen der Versicherungswirtschaft	seminare.bdue.de/
27 – 30 Nov	Vienna (Austria)	Finanzseminare Basics (Aktien, Anleihen und Fonds / Derivate und strukturierte Produkte / Börsengang, Kapitalmaßnahmen und Emissionsgeschäft / Finanzmarktanalysen verstehen)	www.camels.at/seminare-2017
30 Nov – 2 Dec	Cologne (Germany)	DTT-Seminar: „Finanzberichte nach IFRS / DRS. Eine Einführung für Übersetzer und Terminologen“	dttev.org/
1 – 2 Dec	Vienna (Austria)	Finanzseminare Hintergrundwissen (Geldpolitik und Banken / Energiehandel und Energiebörsen)	www.camels.at/seminare-2017
7 – 8 Dec	Frankfurt (Germany)	Corporate Governance in Germany and Terminology	www.camels.at/seminare-2017

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