

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the ATA German Language Division  
San Francisco, California, November 2, 2007**

The Administrator of ATA's German Language Division, Frieda Ruppaner-Lind, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

The assembled members approved the minutes of the previous year's meeting, copies of which were distributed to those present.

Ms. Ruppaner-Lind gave a brief overview of the Division activities over the past year, which consisted of the "core services" of conference planning, distributing a newsletter, facilitating dialogue through the GLD mailing list, and posting content on the GLD Web site. There were only three editions of the newsletter instead of four in the past year for lack of volunteer time.

The Assistant Administrator (who really functions more in the capacity of a co-administrator), Ms. Ruth Gentes Krawczyk, then reported on her activities of the past year. In addition to finding an invited speaker for the San Francisco conference, Ms. Gentes Krawczyk concentrated her efforts on planning the social event for the conference. Because of the tenth anniversary of the Division, the dinner was held jointly with the French Division at a local restaurant and fully sold out. Ms. Gentes Krawczyk also solicited photographs of past conferences from members and prepared a PowerPoint presentation to commemorate the tenth anniversary.

The next report was given by Abigail Dahlberg, as a representative of the Interaktiv newsletter editing team. Ms. Dahlberg reported that Astrid Kaeser is no longer part of the editorial staff and that Rainer Klett, who has served as editor for many years, is planning to cut back on his involvement with Interaktiv. That leaves only Ms. Dahlberg and Roland Grefer to handle the newsletter. Consequently, only three editions came out in the past year. The team hopes to attract more volunteers to publish four issues over the next year. Division members are asked to provide feedback and send in articles for publication.

Christoph Niedermair, the GLD list moderator, gave his annual report next. The GLD list, which is run as a Yahoo group, currently has 285 members. Discussions have been lively with an average of 600 messages exchanged a month. In the past year, there were few problems that required the intervention of the list moderator or the elected Division officials. Mr. Niedermair thanked his backup moderators, Gerhard Preisser and Frieda Ruppaner-Lind for their support and occasional intervention behind the scenes. Even though the listserv is the most utilized core service of the Division, many members are still unaware of its existence and do not participate. Ms. Ruppaner-Lind noted that division membership had grown significantly after ATA's decision to no longer charge separate division membership fees. The German Language Division now has 1264 members.

Michael Wahlster, the Webmaster, reported that the Division's website is the "least visited part" of member benefits with 140-250 hits a month. As is the custom every year, handouts and session reports from the conference will be posted on the website for everyone's perusal. The site also contains the newsletter archive.

Ms. Ruppenner-Lind then proceeded to new business for 2008. Since 2008 will be an election year, a nominating committee is required and needs to find two candidates for office. Ted Wozniak, Stafford Hemmer and Ruth Boggs volunteered to serve on the nominating committee.

The discussion moved on to planning the 2008 conference, which will be held in Orlando, Florida. Ms. Ruppenner-Lind notes that the association has made it easier to invite speakers and welcomed suggestions of topics and potential speakers. After some discussion, it was suggested to form an ad-hoc committee to plan the conference content for Orlando, with Marita Marcano, Eva Stabenow, Stafford Hemmer, Susanne Aldridge, and Jill Sommer offering to volunteer.

The attendees also had praise for this year's invited speaker, Suzanne Ballansat-Aebi of the *Ecole de Traduction et d'Interpretation*, University of Geneva, Switzerland, who offered a legal pre-conference seminar and a 90-minute conference session.

Discussion then turned to the social event to be planned for the Division in Orlando. Jill Sommer agreed to contact GLD members living in Florida to help plan a social event. Some members noted that it is important to hold an event that is accessible to everyone.

As in past years, the topic of a German-language mid-year conference came up. Even though interest continues to exist, there is much competition from other events, including the seminars offered by ATA around the country. It was agreed that it would be preferable to focus member efforts on the program content at the annual conference.

"Special fund": Based on an anonymous donation, a raffle was held among needy applicants to attend the Division dinner this year free of charge. This brought up the idea to start a "special fund" of donated money to provide newcomers to the career or GLD members in financial distress with the opportunity to attend the conference or other GLD-sponsored events. However, it was noted that prior to soliciting donations to such a fund, its legal basis and principles would have to be carefully reviewed, preferably by a US lawyer to avoid pitfalls. The Division Administrators invited further discussion on this topic before any concrete action will be taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothee Racette