

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the ATA German Language Division
Denver, CO
October 28, 2010

The Administrator of ATA's German Language Division, Ruth Gentes Krawczyk, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The assembled members approved the agenda of the present meeting and the minutes of the previous year's meeting.

A visitor, Dagmar Jenner of Universitas in Austria, was recognized who brought best wishes from her association. She proposed to form a common pool of proofreaders from both organizations who can edit/proof each other's work. She also brought goodies which were shared among the members.

The death of the husband of a colleague was announced and cards of condolence were passed around for all to sign.

Feedback from last year's Annual Meeting called for visuals giving information on various aspects of the GLD. This was provided in the form of PowerPoint slides.

Ms. Gentes Krawczyk then gave an overview of the German-speaking or German-related sessions at this year's conference: 8 in all, and they all had a good turnout. All session proposals for German had been approved. The distinguished speakers were a great success. An email list was sent around for handouts from one of the speakers who had not been able to provide them in time to be included on the Conference CD. A call was made for proposals for next year's conference in Boston.

The staff of the Newsletter was not present but had submitted a report. Astra Van Heest as editor of *interaktiv* provided a brief summary of activities since last year. Two issues of *interaktiv* had come out in 2010, both of them filled with interesting articles. Ms. Van Heest handed in her resignation effective immediately. There are enough articles for *interaktiv* available for one entire edition, but new materials will have to be collected thereafter.

Michael Wahlster, the person in charge of the website layout, gave an overview of updates to the website. Not much has changed since last year. He reported that the website has an average of 260 visitors per month and that they enter and exit through fairly regular channels. Articles provided on the website may be printed later on if we wish to do so.

Gerhard Preisser, the moderator the GLD list, was not present. His report stated that the list now has 368 members, while the German Language Division itself has 1483 members. There have been as many as 1,055 contributions in a single day, and generally there are brisk and lively discussions. As usual, the moderator used a hands-off approach and only intervened in exceptional cases. The listserv proves to be a quick and easy way of communication between GLD members.

Information of how to sign up to the GLD listserv was provided as a PPT slide.

The Planning Committee for the Fall Conference is usually active between January and March of each year. An invitation was extended to members to join in and help plan the sessions, speakers, and social events for German in Boston.

The “official/unofficial gathering” this year will take place on Friday, Oct. 29, at Peak’s Lounge on the 27th floor.

The Division Open House on Wednesday was a success. Food and drinks were praised, and the atmosphere was lively and relaxed. This new conference item was met with the general approval of those present.

Next year’s conference will take place at Marriott Copley Place in Boston, MA, from Oct. 26-29, 2011. The floor was opened for suggestions for a main topic for the Boston conference, and the following specializations were collected: technical, green energy/alternative energies; electrical, specifically electric cars; medical technology/medical devices, research; localization; creative writing/journalistic writing; information regarding typical aspects of Swiss and Austrian law, and differences between German variations.

Two speakers may be invited, but they must not be members of the association and they should specialize in completely different topics. A member suggested speaking to GABA (German-American Business Association) for referrals, and different members announced that they would approach Ms. Gentes Krawczyk with additional suggestions for names and addresses of potential speakers.

The Boston conference will feature a restaurant visit by interested members (which takes place every other year, this being the year where we stay at the hotel), and more people were interested in seafood than in German food. The organizing committee will look for a suitable place.

Additional discussion regarding the Newsletter took place, and the Administrator explained that some Language Divisions have gone to a blog format. There is a blog already in existence on our website, although it is not widely used. The idea right now is to have one print issue per year and then use the blog format for the rest of the year, provided ATA Headquarters agrees to this new format. Matt Baird has agreed to spearhead this effort.

Jill Sommer as head of the Nominating Committee presided over the election of officers per acclamation, and Ruth Gentes Krawczyk was confirmed as GLD Administrator, and Eva Stabenow was confirmed as Co-Administrator.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanne van Eyl