

German Language Division
Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting
ATAs 56th Annual Conference

The annual meeting of the German Language Division of the American Translators Association was scheduled for Friday, November 6, 2015, at 4:45 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency in Miami, Florida. The meeting was delayed by five minutes while we moved to Orchid C for space reasons. The room assigned to us was entirely too small.

The annual meeting of the GLD was called to order at 4:51 PM by the division administrator, Michael Engley. Copies of the agenda and last year's minutes had been published in the most recent edition of the newsletter, *interaktiv*. There was one correction to the agenda. Ruth Gentes-Krawczyk is not the Proofreading Pool coordinator; it is Carlie Sitzman. The agenda was accepted as corrected. The minutes of last year's meeting were accepted by Claudia Kellersch and seconded by Gerhard Preisser. The

Michael Engley offered a report on the sessions being offered at the conference and asked presenters to stand up so they could be thanked. He announced that our webmaster Ekaterina Howard was not present at the meeting and was stepping down as webmaster. He thanked her *in absentia* for her excellent work.

Carlie Sitzman offered a report on the Proofreading Pool with UNIVERSITAS. She reported that it is working well and explained that it is a good tool for both languages. It is open to anyone, and is available through Dropbox. She is also the New Member Coordinator and invited new members to contact her. Matt Baird explained from the audience how the proofreading pool works for those who were still confused.

Karen Leube, the GLD's European Coordinator, was then invited to discuss the GLD activities in Europe. There are 51 active members, 49 of which are in Europe. She pointed out to the group that 6 of the GLD presenters live in Europe. They have their own listserv to facilitate the arrangement of get-togethers. They had an all-day workshop in Mainz last year that was well-attended. She also had a social event in May in Aachen that included lunch and a cathedral tour. She invited us to attend their workshop at BDÜ headquarters in Munich on March 5 organized Birget Vossler-Bremer and Elke Mailand. The cost will be €15. There will also be a social event on Friday evening.

Sandy Jones, the GLD Social Media Expert, was then invited to report on the GLD's social media activities. She lamented that the Facebook page only had 128 "likes" and needs more "shares" and interaction. It only reaches 75 of the 128 people who liked the page. Nine people are actively engaged and there is an average of 12 shares of the items posted. She discussed the possibility of a Twitter account. She was pleased to report later that the Facebook page received 14 new "likes" during the meeting.

The listserv moderator, Gerhard Preisser, was invited to talk about the listserv and regaled us with his report. There were 466 members as of November 1, which is 13 more than last year at this time and equates to a growth of three percent. He lamented that around 250 of the 466 members were "stille Geniesser" who lurk and do not contribute anything. There were 5233 postings, which is a little less than last year, but of those there considerably fewer one word answers. He then offered a few examples of terminology questions, which had the members in stitches. He thanked the listserv members for not competing but instead inspiring and helping each other.

Michael reported that Ekaterina has done a good job as webmaster and moved the website to a new server this year. He requested people to submit content.

Matt Baird then reported on the newsletter. The GLD newsletter, *interaktiv*, was published two times this year, although the summer one did not appear until September for technical reasons. The PDF newsletter remains at 20 pages in length, and still features a greeting by the division administrator and newsletter editor, Notes from the Homeland by Karen Leube, a translator profile, a dictionary review, a calendar of events, and other content. He recognized the newsletter team of Katrin Rippel, Kimberly Scherer, Ute Kegel, Michael Engley, and Susan Starling. The members thanked Matt and his newsletter team for their hard work.

Michael took a moment to welcome the Newbies and thank the Buddies in the room.

As for new business, the conference next year will be held in San Francisco. Michael was pleased to note that he has two excellent speakers possibly lined up already – Philip Bohm, a theater director, playwright, literary translator and winner of the Unger Award, and Matilda Reaves-Jones, who works in quality assurance for medical devices. Lois Feuerle and Susanne Van Eyl were thanked for suggesting the contacts. Some other suggestions were raised for future conferences, such as an employee at an embassy for the conference in Washington, DC, in 2017 and a lawyer couple that specializes in German law. Suggestions were made for the GLD event in San Francisco that included something possibly in Chinatown or at Schröders. Tim Cassidy, the current president of NCTA, offered his services to help organize something.

Mr. Engley then asked if there were any other questions or concerns. When none were raised, he adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill R. Sommer