



Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting of the German Language Division

The Meeting of the German Language Division (GLD) was held on Friday, September 19, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 3:21 pm online prior to ATA66 in Boston, chaired by Administrator Karen Leube with Assistant Administrator Robin Limmeroth taking minutes and 28 GLD members in attendance.

Karen began the meeting with a call to order and welcome.

The agenda for the meeting and the Leadership Council reports were added to the Zoom chat. Ruth Boggs moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Sabine Seiler. Ruth Gentes Krawczyk moved to approve the minutes of the 2024 GLD Annual Meeting on October 4, 2024 (available on GLD website (Archive) and in the Files section of the GLD listserv), seconded by Robin Limmeroth.

Brief German Language Division Overview

Next, Karen gave an overview of the past year in the GLD, covering the following in-person events and mentioning that the Digital Events Coordinators would talk about the digital events.

In-person events

Vienna 10th GLD Members in Europe workshop

The 10th anniversary workshop of the GLD Members in Europe group was held in Vienna and the three-day event was very well-received by the approximately 35 attendees and was reported on in *interaktiv* and on the GLD blog. Vienna is being kept in mind for future events as well.

New York NYCT/GLD Stammtisch

A big thanks to GLD Web Manager, Randal Gernaat, who is also the NYCT Treasurer, for his help organizing this event. Eighteen of us met in New York City for an interesting half-day workshop that was free of cost, thanks to Randal's efforts.

Lancaster, PA Pennsylvania Dutch Day

Because Divisions must work with Chapters to hold events, Karen Leube and Jamie Hartz worked with the DVTA to make this well-attended and interesting event happen. Karen's tenacious efforts and Jamie's PR savvy ensured that the event was well-publicized, affordable, offered a variety of very knowledgeable speakers, and was well attended (45 attendees, including a number of local attendees who were neither ATA nor DVTA members).

The GLD at ATA66

Karen stated that unfortunately just two slots for educational sessions (fewer and fewer every year) were submitted by GLD members for the German track and both were chosen for the Annual Conference. These slots include a session recapping the GLD's Pennsylvania Dutch Day by GLD member Jamie Hartz and GLD Administrator Karen Leube, and the GLD Professional Forum entitled "From Hype to Hands-On: Real-World AI Adoption Among German to/from English T&I Professionals," facilitated by Karen and GLD Assistant Administrator Robin Limmeroth.

Robin provided information about the GLD Professional Forum and its benefits for GLD members, as well as requesting that all members please complete the survey complementing the Forum that was sent out to GLD members. The results of the survey and Forum will be posted on the GLD website.

Robin then shared that the GLD is having its Networking Dinner on Thursday, October 23, 2025, from 7:00–10:00 pm at the Boston Goethe-Institut, in a private space. The dinner costs \$68 per person and includes the venue, German wine, soft drinks, and plenty of finger food. The Goethe-Institut kindly offered the GLD a huge discount to make the event possible. Just seven tickets are still available; ticket sales end September 25, 2025.

Next, Robin mentioned that a sponsor has been found for a one-day student conference registration for Thursday, October 23, 2025, including registration for the dinner; any interested student or anyone knowing of a potentially interested student should please contact Robin or Karen. An email about this was previously sent to the listserv.

Finally, Robin shared information about the "Weimar Under the Palms" event being held at the Goethe-Institut on Saturday, October 25, 2025, 3:30 PM-4:30 PM and featuring author Thomas Blubacher and translator Elisabeth Laufer. The link was shared in the Zoom chat (https://www.goethe.de/ins/us/en/ver.cfm?event_id=26911942). The event is free of charge, but tickets are required.

Next year it is the GLD's turn to have a Distinguished Speaker, and Karen asked anyone with ideas to please contact her or Robin. Candidates should ideally be located in the United States.

Leadership Council

Leadership Council changes:

Andrew Hudson, new Social Media Coordinator

Heike Holthaus resigned as Collaboration Pool Coordinator

Katrin Rippel Galati to resign as Co-Digital Events Coordinator effective 1/2026

Andrew introduced himself as the GLD's new Social Media Coordinator and looks forwards to getting started.

Karen announced that the Collaboration Pool (originally created as the Proofreading Pool in a collaboration between the GLD and Austria's Universitas years ago) would be shut down by the end of the year, as it has never been able to attract much activity. Previous Administrator Ruth Boggs mentioned that it never seemed to catch on, which was not to a lack of GLD energy invested in it. A LinkedIn group had been created for it a few years ago, but group members did not use the group for collaboration. In 2024, we decided to give it another year and invest dedicated efforts in it. These special efforts in the past year included an article by Megan posted on the GLD blog and an event held by the Digital Events Coordinators dedicated to the Collaboration Pool, but it appears its purpose is served more easily through the listserv.

Karen thanked Heike for all her efforts to give it life during her time as Collaboration Pool Coordinator.

Karen thanked Katrin for the fantastic job she has done in the past three years, emphasizing how great it was that she was not afraid to try new things. A candidate has been asked to be her replacement, and we are currently awaiting their response. [Note: Jen Mendez will assume the position of Co-Digital Events Coordinator effective 1/2026]

Report from Katrin Rippel Galati and Megan Falk, Digital Events Coordinators

- Megan talked about her and Katrin's brainstorming efforts, and that the recent GLD survey offered insights. The details of the October 14 panel discussion are TBA soon. There will be a conference recap in November and they are currently looking for ideas for December, so anyone who has an idea or is interested should please contact Megan or Katrin.
- Katrin talked about repeating events that members really liked, such as the conference recap, an event for poetry month in April, and a book club event in the summer. Scheduled events include one social event per quarter and two webinars per year: June's was *Kurrentschrift* and the October 14 webinar will be a panel about translating personal documents. There are also plans for a conference recap & social event in November and perhaps a *Glühweinabend* in December.

Report from Randal Gernaat, Web Manager

- Randal is most active on the website with blog posts. Twice a year the new issue of *interaktiv* is prepared for downloading and the previous issues added to the archives.
- Randal mentioned there have been requests to optimize the "Find a Translator" through web searches (e.g., through SEO) and welcomes anyone with ideas to please contact him.
- He then presented several aspects of the website with attendees, covering Member Benefits & Resources, News & Events, and the ATA Conference section.
- If anyone has feedback or ideas about the website, please contact Randal.

Karen asked anyone interested in writing a blog post to please contact her.

Report from Sabine Seiler, Collaboration Pool Coordinator

- Sabine shared that she and her staff are sorry to see Annett Kuester step down as copyeditor and Stella Waltemade to leave her post as calendar editor. With the first issue of 2026, they will welcome Kristina Cosumano as new calendar editor.
- The second issue of 2025 will be published next week, including a preview of conference sessions, information about the networking event, and reports on the year's events.
- There is a new section in *interaktiv* that pays homage to unjustly forgotten translators, which Sabine hopes to have as a regular section.
- Sabine called for reports on the conference.

Karen talked about the gargantuan effort required to publish *interaktiv* twice a year, with its issues packed with

information and congratulated Sabine and her staff on the great job they have been doing. We can share *interaktiv* with others (compared to the ATA Chronicle, which is a member benefit and therefore behind a paywall); Karen shared it with the *Netzwerk-Hochschulübersetzer* (an association of university translators in Germany). Working on *interaktiv* involves jobs both big and small, time-sensitive, but not every job is as time-consuming as some other roles. Contact Sabine if you are interested.

Report from GLD Listmaster Rainer Klett

Rainer shared his thoughts about the list with us. Though he does not post often himself, he reads every single post sent to the listserv. He has not had to intervene in a long time and finds the list to be a pleasant environment. At present there are 246 members (50 fewer than one year ago, some of which were old addresses and some no longer ATA members). In 12 months, there were 1,237 posts, which is fewer than last year's number by about half. He believes this may be attributed to the fact that information is now so easily found online. Posts included terminology requests, grammar, US/UK differences and Germany/Austria Switzerland differences. Rainer emphasized there are no dumb questions except for those that remain unasked, further stating that the list members have very diverse professional experiences and lives, enabling us to help one another. He finished with a reminder that he is located on the West Coast.

Recognitions

Karen expressed the GLD's thanks to the following people for their service:

- Thanks to the 2024-2025 GLD Leadership Council for their service and everything they have done for the GLD, emphasizing what a good and harmonious group it has been
- Thanks to Heike Holthaus for serving as the Collaboration Pool Coordinator
- Thanks to Katrin Rippel Galati for serving as the Co-Digital Events Coordinator
- Thanks to Noah Alter for serving as the Social Media Coordinator
- Thanks to Ellen Yutzy Glebe and Bettina Schreibermaier-Clasen for planning the GLD Members in Europe workshop in Vienna in February
- Thanks to Randal Gernaat for organizing the NYCT/GLD Stammtisch in March
- Thanks to Jamie Hartz for co-organizing the GLD/DVTA Pennsylvania Dutch Day in July
- Congratulations to Megan Falk for her article on ableism in the ATA Chronicle, which many people can profit from
- Thanks to the entire *interaktiv* team for two great issues
- Thanks to Nathan Wiegand for managing the Handwritten Documents Translators list
- Thanks to Frieda Ruppenner-Lind for managing the Personal Documents Translators list

New Business for 2025/2026

- ATA's 67th Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA, October 28-31, 2026)
 - Suggestions for topics and Distinguished Speaker
 - Please submit session proposals
- ATA info:
 - We have a new and very responsive Division and Chapters Manager, Kathryn DeVito
 - There are monthly Division Administrator & Assistant Administrator meetings
 - The ATA Directory has been redone, with increased user-friendliness
 - The Division Handbook has been updated
- Open to suggestions for webinars and other digital events
- Call for blog contributions
- GLD Members in Europe workshop in Fulda, Feb. 20-22, 2026 (inexpensive, with city tour, and a focus on going back to the basics)
- Elections for Administrator and Assistant Administrator will be held in 2026. Karen will not be standing for re-election. There are no longer nominating committees; instead, suggestions are to be sent directly to HQ.

Preview: 2027: The GLD's 30th Anniversary, Mid-year Conference with NYCT

In 2027 for the GLD's 30th anniversary we are partnering with NYCT for a mid-year *Fachkonferenz*. The idea is to have different parallel tracks and a variety of topics over a day and a half in May/June 2027. The team is currently working on locations. There will not be a GLD in Europe workshop in 2027.

Marita Marcano shared that the University of Heidelberg's alumni association would be holding its 30th anniversary event in 2026, including four days of events. Only alumni can sign up. The information is to be posted on the listserv.

Note: During the meeting, a Zoom chat was opened where attendees could state their name and where they are located, as well as to enable questions, comments, and information to be shared. In addition to the questions and comments mentioned above, contributions included Matthew Griffin sharing that the Brooklyn Book Festival is this coming weekend with a book fair on Sunday at Borough Hall BK and numerous persons thanking the various members of the GLD Leadership Council for their hard work, as well as welcoming Andrew to the LC.

Materials shared included the 2025 Annual Meeting agenda and the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Karen thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting.

Robin Limmeroth, 12/7/2025