



Minutes of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the German Language Division

The Meeting of the German Language Division (GLD) was held on Friday, September 18, 2026, from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm EDT online prior to ATA67 in San Francisco, chaired by Administrator Karen Leube with Assistant Administrator Robin Limmeroth taking minutes and 26 GLD members in attendance.

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

The agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting were added to the Zoom chat. Rainer Klett moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Noreen Brenner. Ruth Boggs moved to approve the minutes of the 2025 GLD Annual Meeting on September 19, 2025 (available on GLD website (Archive), in the Zoom chat, and in the Files section of the GLD listserv), seconded by Matt Baird.

Brief German Language Division Overview

Karen gave an overview of the past year in the GLD, covering the following in-person events, as well as mentioning that the digital events would be reported on later in the meeting by Digital Events Co-Coordinator Jen Mendez.

In-person events

The 11th anniversary workshop of the GLD Members in Europe group was held in Fulda, and the three-day event was very well received by the 19 attendees.

A NYCT/GLD Stammtisch was held in New York on June 10.

The GLD at ATA67

Karen shared that registrations for the Conference are quite a bit lower than in previous years. The GLD is represented with sessions on all three days, as well as the usual networking event:

- Distinguished Speaker Michael Hoffmann (Thursday: *Translation and Machine Translation: Fallada's Each Man Dies Alone* and Saturday: *Voice, Choice, and the Bilingual Translator: A Conversation with Michael Hofmann*) Michael Hoffmann won the Booker Prize in 2024 for his translation of *Kairos* by Jenny Erpenbeck. Thursday's session will compare Hoffmann's translation of Hans Fallada's *Kleiner Mann Was Nun?* with existing AI translations. Saturday's session will be Hoffmann being interviewed by a GLD member (probably Karen) at the first session following the lunch break.
- Professional Forum: Friday: *Did Someone Say "Certified"? Translating Official Documents for and from DACH Countries* with Susanne Kretschmer, Frieda Ruppaner-Lind, and Carola Berger.
- Robin shared information about the GLD Networking Dinner on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 7:00–9:00 pm at Perry's Embarcadero, just a short walk from the hotel down the Embarcadero, so no need for Ubers. The dinner costs \$76 per person and includes one of three entrees and dessert. The dinner cost also includes taxes, the San Francisco health insurance mandate, gratuities, and the restaurant's coordination fee (totaling 39.625% in all). Attendees should bring cash for their drinks, as the venue will only accept a maximum of four credit cards.

Election of GLD Officers

Ruth Boggs explained that GLD officers are elected every two years in accordance with the ATA policy governing its divisions. She announced that this year's election was uncontested, with Karen being reelected to the position of Division Administrator and Jennifer Mendez being elected to the position of Assistant Administrator. Karen stated that she is very grateful Jen agreed to assume the position, especially since they are also one of the Digital Events Co-Coordinationers.

Leadership Council

Leadership Council changes:

- Megan Falk has stepped down as Digital Events Co-Coordinator
- Christina (Tina) Siegel has been appointed new Digital Events Co-Coordinator
- Erin Riddle is a Leadership Council Consultant
- Robin Limmeroth has been appointed GLD Blog Editor (new position)

Report from Randal Gernaat, Web Manager

Randal spends most of his time on the website doing maintenance, updating plug-ins and checking that links remain unbroken, ensuring information is up-to-date, and adding files from meetings and other files to ensure we have a historical record.

He mentioned that there is a dedicated page for the Jubilee Conference in NYC and posted the link in the Zoom chat. The page will be updated as speakers are found and more information becomes available. Karen thanked Randal for keeping an eye out for interesting posts to share on the blog such as Abby Huber's genealogy research and Randal's own article about the first German translation of the Declaration of Independence. The GLD is very grateful for his proactive work.

Report from Jen Mendez, Digital Events Co-Coordinator

Jen reported on the events of the year before they assumed her role, including a Karneval social, where members got together and talked about Karneval celebrations in their towns. There had been a book event planned, which unfortunately did not take place due to technical problems. There were not very many events this year, but the new Digital Events Co-Coordinator are brainstorming and discussing webinars to ensure a full calendar for 2027. Their plans to close out the year include a fall social, where members get together and share their favorite fall traditions and poetry or books about fall, especially ones that have been translated, and a holiday-themed end-of-the-year social in December.

Report from Sabine Seiler, *Interaktiv* Editor-in-Chief

Sabine stated that the next issue of *interaktiv* will be published in the first half of October before the conference. She was pleased to announce that the new book review editor is Erin Riddle, and the new issue will include:

- an interview with the distinguished speaker
- the usual columns
- a conference primer
- information about the networking event

She reported that there is a team of 12 people who work on each issue, and they are currently looking for German copy editors. The next issue will include information on the Jubilee Conference and reports on ATA 67. There will also be an article on medical translation by Pavitra Baxi and an article by Matthew Bunczk on non-violent communication. Sabine also offered a big thanks to everyone who helps out with *interaktiv*.

Karen took the opportunity to mention that we are one of the few divisions that still have a newsletter and that it is a publication that can be distributed freely, in contrast to the ATA Chronicle. She requested that members please post the issue on their social media and repost GLD posts about it, as it has been her experience that people enjoy reading it. She also offered her thanks to Sabine for all her hard work.

Report from Ellen Yutzy-Glebe, GLD Members in Europe Coordinator

Ellen reported on the GLD members in Europe get-together workshop in Fulda, which at 19 attendees was fairly small compared to previous workshops, but it was a good group and included attendees who came from abroad. It was also a very nice location. As there will not be a workshop in 2027 (to give everyone the opportunity to attend the Jubilee Conference in New York), the next workshop is being planned for 2028, when we will be returning to Vienna. It will be a different venue on the other side of the city and will take place on the first weekend in March.

Karen added about Fulda that it was a very affordable workshop, a very interesting city tour, and well worth the effort, including Ingrid Haussteiner talking about working for the European Central Bank as a translator and other sessions. The workshop was not only great venue-wise, but also top-notch in terms of subject matter.

Report from Kristina Cosumano, New Member Coordinator

Kristina reported that she had been recently contacted by someone who had just joined the division. Unfortunately, the GLD does not receive an alert when someone joins the division, so we have to hope that they will contact us in order for us to fill them in on all the benefits and activities of the GLD.

Kristina has also taken over the events calendar for the website and thanked Randal for all his help. She has been filling in the events calendar, adding events, and passing the list of events to Sabine for *interaktiv*. Kristina also requested that the new digital events co-coordinators please send her information as soon as digital events are scheduled so they can be added to the calendar right away.

Report from GLD Listmaster Rainer Klett

Rainer stated that the listserv is not as active as it used to be. Every summer, he does an annual cleanup of the list and deletes non-members, as it is a requirement to be an ATA member and a GLD member to be on the listserv. It is a thankless but necessary job. As of this year, we have 189 members compared to last September's 246. There was not much activity in the last 12 months, with the total number of posts for the year being 603. In the prior 12 months, there were twice as many, and in the 12 months before that, twice as many as the previous number.

Rainer reads all posts, but he has not needed to intervene in terms of netiquette within the past 12 months. He also shared that „*dumme Fragen sind die, die nicht gestellt werden*“ and reminded us that we have so many colleagues from different areas with different expertise who are happy to help on the listserv.

Karen stated that there were indeed fewer mails, but also no arguments. The listserv has been very peaceful, and she encouraged people to sign up for the listserv, as it is also the only way GLD leadership has to quickly communicate with its members in the division, other than coordinating a message through HQ. She also thanked Rainer for his work.

Recognitions

Karen thanked everyone on the Leadership Council for their work and their additional efforts in writing up reports, etc. It may occasionally look like not much is happening, but there is always a lot going on behind the scenes. She expressed the GLD's thanks specifically to the following people for their service:

- Thanks to the 2025-2026 GLD Leadership Council for their service
- Thanks to Ellen Yutzy Glebe for planning the GLD Members in Europe workshop in Fulda in February
- Thanks to GLD Members Matt Baird, Carola Berger, Ellen Yutzy Glebe, Michael Schubert, Kelly Neudorfer, and Ingrid Haussteiner for their presentations at the Fulda workshop
- Thanks to Randal Gernaat for organizing the NYCT/GLD Stammtisch in June
- Thanks to the entire *interaktiv* team for two great issues
- Thanks to Tina Siegel, Kristal Fellingner, Abigail Huber, Matt Griffin, and Randal Gernaat for their blog posts
- Thanks to Jochen Trost for assuming the management of the Handwritten Documents Translators list
- Thanks to Frieda Ruppaner-Lind for managing the Personal Documents Translators list
- Thanks to Robin Limmeroth for serving as the GLD Assistant Administrator for the past four years

New Business for 2026/2027

- The GLD is open to suggestions for webinars and other digital events
- Karen asked for blog contributions
- The GLD Jubilee Conference from May 15 to 16, 2027, at Goethe-Institut New York is being hosted by the NYCT. The program will be similar to the GLD in Europe, with Friday evening (May 14) dedicated to a social event and the official program on Saturday and Sunday. The Call for Speakers was published today. Speakers already booked include Mark Loudon, as well as a panel of speakers who have utilized their translation skills to work in other sectors, including Eva Stabenow, who works in medical writing and offers Pilates instruction, Kristina Cosumano, who now works in audio descriptions, and Marion Rhodes, a very active, long-time former GLD member working in SEO optimization.

The workshop is intended to be a *Fachkonferenz* with only German-English and English-German-focused sessions. There will be no AI focus, with all sessions focusing on our specific language pair instead. Karen mentioned how great it has been working with NYCT, whose treasurer is our Web Manager Randal. Erin Riddle is also involved in the planning, as well as President Viktoriya Baum and Vice President Liz Herron-Sweet, who have been very helpful.

With luck, we will be able to reserve a block of hotel rooms, as Airbnb is no longer an option in New York City. Sponsors are currently being sought in order to keep the conference affordable and productive. Continuing education points will also be offered. Speakers selected from the Call for Speakers will receive a \$200 honorarium and free conference registration. The venue is the library at the Goethe-Institut, which seats 100, so the total number of attendees has been capped at 100. There are also two smaller rooms available, enabling us to have various sessions running concurrently.

Karen asked if there were any questions or comments. Ruth Boggs thanked Karen for all her amazing work and stated that the GLD benefits greatly from having the Dynamo Award winner as its administrator. This sentiment was wholeheartedly seconded by the attendees.

Note: During the meeting, a Zoom chat was opened where attendees were asked to state their name and where they are located. Attendees' locations ranged from Maine to New York and Washington D.C. to California, as well as numerous locations in Germany, demonstrating the extensive reach of our Division.

The Zoom chat was also intended to enable questions, comments, and information to be shared. In addition to comments discussing potential newsletter articles, numerous persons thanked Karen, Robin, and the members of the LC for their work. Materials shared included the 2026 Annual Meeting agenda, the Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting, the invitation to the GLD Networking Dinner at ATA67, and the NYCT-GLD Jubilee Conference Call for Speakers and Preliminary Program.

Karen thanked everyone for coming and ended the meeting at 3:30 pm EDT.

Robin Limmeroth, 09/20/2026