



ATA Language Technology Division

ATA LTD meeting minutes



Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2006

Annual LTD Business meeting

New Orleans

Attendees: 30

Current Division Administrator Michael Metzger led the meeting, which was attended by about 30 people (meeting opened at 10:15 a.m.). He began by thanking the ATA administration, colleagues who reviewed the proposal for the division, and the 20 petition signers.

ATA TAC and LTD

A division of labor agreement was outlined between ATA TAC and LTD.

- The Translation and Computers committee (chaired by Alan Melby) will organize the Translation Tools Forum at the ATA conference, promote standards, review proposals for the conference and proposed articles on technology for the ATA Chronicle.
- The Language Technology Division will bring together technology users (potentially every member of the ATA), encourage ATA members to submit articles for the ATA Chronicle, and work with the professional development committee on regional professional development seminars (and come up with ideas). It will also maintain a web site and e-mail list-based forums and discussion group.

LTD activities that are planned/implemented

Next agenda item was an outline of activities LTD members are currently working on or have planned:

- Peer-to-peer support — teaching newcomers (and other who design and test tools). It should “not [be] just a geek thing” but the organizers “want a lot of people who have questions.”
- Discussions — The LTD listserv is already seeing a marked increase in posts.
- Continuing education — sponsor/support seminars outside the ATA conference.
- ATA LTD Newsletter — High-quality content in newsletter articles (the division is required to create a newsletter), which will be developed over the next year.



- Panels — work with TAC on industry events
- Help shape T&I industry and peripherals
- Communicate needs for what to include in standards
- Career paths — offer a place in ATA for people who are more technology-oriented and not specifically T&I.

LTD communication channels

The website is maintained by Michael Wahlster. The division's website is www.ata-divisions.org/LTD with Trends, Standards and Tool Review areas (including open source development articles).

The Mailing list is maintained by Tony Roder. He stated that the list is for ATA members only, and that while it is not moderated, he will watch it and will delete postings if needed. The link to the mailing list is:

yahoo!groups_ataLtd. Or <http://techgroups.yahoo.com/group/ataLTD>

LTD business

The division still needs an administrator, vice-administrator and secretary. Michael Metzger will temporarily act as administrator until officers can be elected. The bylaws, which had been reviewed and accepted by ATA Headquarter and the Board of the ATA were brought for a vote, as the quorum (10 members) had been met. Beatriz Bonnet moved to accept the bylaws; Tony Roder seconded the motion, and the bylaws were adopted by unanimous vote.

Nominating committee

Alan Melby mentioned the need to appoint a nominating committee (whose members cannot be nominated for office). Jost Zetzsche and Robert Killingsworth were appointed.

LTD event participation

Alan Melby also mentioned having a representative at Localization World once the division's numbers are significant. Alan Melby also suggested that someone represent the LTD at the next Translation Summit (March 12, 2007 in Salt Lake City). It was agreed that Michael Metzger as acting administrator was the logical representative, and Alan Melby pointed out he can apply to ATA for funds for the trip.

Further discussion

Robert Killingsworth suggested a survey/profile (anonymous) of the members. Alan Melby said ATA uses surveymonkey. ATA has to approve surveys, and Translation Summit has a pending request for a survey on tool use (Jost Zetzsche is in charge).

Beatriz Bonnet: At Localization World, a vendor (Peter Reynolds of Idiom) asked for feedback on the company's tools and said he would be very interested to contact the LTD for this purpose.

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 11:30 a.m.