Nearly 11,000 members and the work of hundreds of volunteers are supported by ATA’s dedicated and knowledgeable staff of 11. The group works well together, so when an employee leaves, in addition to looking at a candidate’s experience and skills, we also consider how well that individual will fit in with the team.

Of course, whenever there is a change in personnel, there is also an opportunity to analyze overall efficiency and effectiveness. Here are some recent changes that I am confident will be a positive step for the Association.

Jon Mendoza: Jon, who was the Certification Program manager, had been with ATA for nine years. Upon the recent completion of his master’s degree in film and television production, he left ATA last month to pursue his dreams. Good luck, Jon!

Caron Mason, CAE: Following Jon’s departure and a review of our operations, it was clear that Caron, ATA’s public relations and marketing manager, had the right skills for administering the Certification Program. She was interested in trying something new and readily accepted the opportunity to expand her experience. Caron has been responsible for ATA’s public relations, exhibit/sponsorship/advertising sales and administration, and honors and awards. She will continue to manage the Honors and Awards Program.

Lauren Mendell: Lauren, our membership relations manager, has an excellent phone personality that is well-suited to exhibit/sponsorship/advertising sales and administration. She will assume these responsibilities, in addition to her primary job of fielding calls and e-mail from the membership and the general public.

Cathy Taguding: To free up some of Lauren’s time, Cathy, who handles data input tasks such as membership renewals and conference registrations, will work with Lauren to provide additional coverage of phone calls and e-mail. This backup coverage will be a good addition to our member support system.

Calls for ...

Make this the year to become more involved in your Association!

Mentoring: The Mentoring Committee is looking for mentees and mentors for the Class of 2015. If you are looking to grow your skills and business acumen, then this is the program for you. Whether you are a relative newcomer or a seasoned veteran, please consider this opportunity. Past participants rave about the positive outcomes from being a part of the program. To learn how to participate, please go to www.atanet.org/careers/mentoring.php.

Nominations: The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee is currently seeking nominations for candidates for this year’s election. To find out how you can make a nomination or put yourself forward as a possible candidate, please go to www.atanet.org/elections.php.

Conference Proposals: Share your expertise with your colleagues at ATA’s 56th Annual Conference in Miami, Florida, November 4-7, 2015. Giving a presentation is a great way to network and gain recognition in the translation and interpreting communities. To submit a proposal, please go to www.atanet.org/events/proposal.php.

Honors and Awards: ATA and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation offer a variety of awards. Some provide monetary prizes, others provide a conference registration, but they all spotlight the recipients. To review the awards and consider which colleagues deserve to be acknowledged, please go to www.atanet.org/aboutus/honorsandawards.php.

Be Sure to Renew

Membership renewals have been mailed. It’s easy to renew online, if you prefer. Just go to www.atanet.org/renew. Thank you for your support and membership in 2014. We look forward to serving you in 2015!