

Slavic Languages Division

Candidate for Assistant Administrator: Elana Pick

I am honored to accept the nomination for the SLD Assistant Administrator position and look forward to serving my term as such.

I am a native Russian speaker, born and raised in the former Soviet Union. I came to this country 17 years ago. I have two master's degrees: in teaching English from Tbilisi Teacher's Training Institute and in journalism from Moscow State University. I have been teaching over 40 years on both sides of the Atlantic (currently, Consecutive Medical Interpreting at the NYU School of Continuous and Professional Studies) and I was awarded a Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences Degree from the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences. I am an ATA-certified EN>RU translator and Court approved interpreter.

When I joined the ATA and SLD 8 years ago, I was very warmly welcomed by the then SLD administrator and then and current editor, who I am fortunate to call my friends. Over the years, I have made more friends within the division and the ATA, have been part of various translation teams, have been an editor and had my translations edited by my esteemed colleagues, and that helped me grow and become a much better translator/interpreter than I was before joining the ATA. In short, I have benefited from both the ATA and the SLD, from the conferences and *SlavFile* and *ATA Chronicle*, as well as from personal networking and bumping heads and arguing over some difficult terms with my colleagues. I think I am at a point where I should and am able to give back and put time and energy into strengthening the educational/professional growth component of the SLD. The SLD is an excellent vehicle for raising professional standards in the Slavic T/I community, and I would like to see its role in spreading knowledge, skill and information expanded. We can all benefit from this. I also feel ATA certification is a valuable asset and we should assist our membership in achieving and maintaining certification through educational sessions and *SlavFile* articles.

P. Elana Pick, Ph.D. (creativeserv@att.net)