

German Language Division: 2008 Candidate Statements

Ms. Ruth Gentes Krawczyk **Candidate for Administrator**

I have been a member of ATA since 1994 and am a graduate of the class of 2000 of Kent State University's MA in German Translation program. I am a native speaker of English, but I have studied and worked in Germany for a total of around eight years. Although I began my career as a teacher of German, I soon figured out I enjoyed German more than teaching, and was thus overjoyed to discover ATA, ALTA and later on the MA program at Kent State. After basically ending my teaching career, I started my own business selling items I imported from Germany, first in a store and later on the Internet. I did this for about twelve years, but in 2005 when my translation business really took off (after my first ATA conference in Nashville in 1995, I attended my second ATA conference in Toronto in 2004 – a connection?), I managed to sell my Internet business and devote my attention and time exclusively to translation. I am now working fulltime as a freelance translator and do not know what I would do without the GLD, and particularly the GLD listserv, since my closest local chapter is around 150 miles away, although I must confess Skype is beginning to help in this area, too!

Having served for the past two years as the German Language Division's Assistant Administrator under Frieda Ruppenner-Lind, I feel I have received good training in how to be a team leader. I've learned some of the ins and outs of organizing speakers for the annual conference and social events, and also how important it is to get member input on events targeted at members. By accepting a nomination as the German Language Division's Administrator, I hope to offer GLD members more opportunities to become involved in activities of the Division. This may include anything from opportunities for continuing education, such as possibly a mid-year conference, visits to various businesses near our conference sites to producing an engaging lineup of speakers for the annual conference, to helping give isolated translators an opportunity for intensive networking at ATA annual conferences or a GLD mid-year conference.

Thank you for your support these past two years and I would be honored to continue serving the Division.