

Slavic Languages Division

Candidate for Administrator: Lucy Gunderson

I joined ATA in 2001 and became certified in the Russian > English language pair later that year. My career changed dramatically when I started attending the annual conference and getting to know people from the Slavic Languages Division. The atmosphere of collegiality, professionalism, and cordiality was striking and my fellow SLD members continue to be sources of work, advice, and friendship. I am running for Administrator because I am at a point in my career where I am able to give back to this wonderful group of people.

If elected, one of my goals will be to make sure that all SLD members are aware of the most recent revision of the Code of Ethics and Professional Practice, which appeared in the May 2011 *ATA Newsbriefs*. I was very impressed by this Code and I think it is something all ATA members should be proud of. I would also like to be able to create a discussion forum in *SlavFile* where members can share their ideas and opinions about different aspects of the profession. Finally, I will work closely with ATA headquarters to ensure that all division members are aware of the opportunities that ATA makes available to us.

I have worked as a translator in some capacity for 15 years and I specialize in international relations, journalism, and business. I have a BA in Russian Studies from Connecticut College, an MA in Russian Language and Literature from The University at Albany, and a Certificate in Translation Studies from The University of Chicago. I am currently the Russian tutor in the Introduction to Translation class at the University of Chicago.

I am very excited to have this opportunity to work with all SLD members over the next two years.

Lucy Gunderson, russophile@earthlink.net

Slavic Languages Division

Candidate for Assistant Administrator: John Riedl

At the ATA conference in Orlando, a friend and I were discussing how useful it would be to have a pan-Slavic glossary of pharmaceutical terms. We decided to get input from well-known translators working in this area and realized that many of them were sitting within a few rows of us. This conversation and the ones that followed led to a glossary in seven different Slavic languages.

The above anecdote illustrates the Slavic Languages Division's (SLD) biggest asset: its group of dedicated and talented translators who are willing to share their knowledge and time. ATA conference presentations and *SlavFile* articles are just a few of the ways that SLD members work to improve our profession and the quality of translation "from and to" the Slavic languages.

As someone who has benefited immensely from the ATA and the work of SLD volunteers, I care very much about SLD's future. I would like to see SLD acquire a reputation for quality and professionalism among Slavic language professionals worldwide. This would make our ATA certifications more valuable and ATA translators more marketable globally. If elected to the position of assistant administrator I will devote my time and energy to anything that gets us closer to this goal. Specifically, I am interested in creating a mechanism to produce SLD "standard" translations for the names of government organizations and institutions.

My relationship with ATA began in 2004 when I first considered becoming a freelance translator. Through the ATA, I found the Translation Studies Program at the University of Chicago. I received a Certificate in Translation Studies from the University of Chicago in 2006 and started translating full-time. Before becoming a translator, I worked in various capacities for large corporations such as Alcoa, Kimberly-Clark, and General Electric. I have a BS in Electrical Engineering and an MS in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an MS in Math Education from Brooklyn College.

John Riedl, translatingcultures@gmail.com