

Board Meeting Summary

ATA Board Meeting, Westin Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles, California, February 5-6, 2022

To keep the membership abreast of ATA Board activities in a timely manner, a summary of the most recent Board meeting follows. This summary is not the same as the meeting minutes. The minutes are posted after they are approved by the Board.

At its February 2022 meeting, the Board:

- Approved the minutes of the October 28, 2021 Annual Meeting of Voting Members, the October 29, 2021 Annual Meeting of All Members, and the October 30-31, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- Expressed its condolences to family, friends, and colleagues of beloved Certification Committee Chair Michèle Hansen after her passing.
- Entered into the record two motions that were approved unanimously via email since the last board meeting, one approving the appointment of Catherine Christaki, Lucía Hernandez, and Jason Knapp to the Business Practices Education Committee, and another approving the appointment of Madalena Sánchez Zampaulo to the Chronicle Editorial Board.
- Discussed reports received from various Divisions and Committees and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation.
- Discussed Treasurer John Milan's report covering July to September 2021. Milan reported that total revenue was up 2.4% for the first quarter at approximately \$483,000, but higher expenses led to a negative change in net assets of roughly \$88,000. These losses were due in part to a 14% decrease in membership, part of a longer-term trend, prior to adjustments to dues. For 2022, the dues increase has actually bumped up revenue by an additional \$200,000 even though fewer members having renewed so far. Other bright spots from ATA's finances include the certification program, which paid for itself for the first time in years, with revenue up 600%, due in part to pent-up demand.
- Heard updates from Headquarters.
- Heard updates from Director and Ethics Committee Chair Robin Bon throne on the committee's substantial work revising the Code of Ethics and Professional Practices and discussed the revised Code and Commentary too.
- Heard updates about the Certification Committee's shift to on-demand certification sittings and approved websites that can be accessed during examinations.
- Approved the appointment of David Stepheson as Chair of the Certification Committee after Michèle Hansen's passing.
- Approved Korean>English as a language pair eligible for certification, with the exam to be offered as of April 2022 and the practice test to be made available immediately.
- Approved conducting a research study on the correlation between performance on the ATA certification exam and proficiency in machine translation post-editing.
- Approved the dissolution of the Translation and Interpreting Resources Committee due to the committee no longer being needed.

- Heard updates from Director and Membership Committee Chair Meghan Konkol on the well- attended Brainstorm Networking event opened to members and non-members, progress with a membership survey geared toward diversity and inclusion, orientation sessions planned through the year, training videos being created and subtitled in collaboration with the Audiovisual Division, progress with the Guide to Starting Out As an Interpreter e-book, and the ongoing work of the committee to make ATA an even more inviting place for new, continuing and long-standing members.
- Heard updates from Director and Public Relations Committee Chair Jamie Hartz on the American Bar Association's citation of ATA in its differentiation between translators and interpreters, the statement on fair working conditions for translators in the entertainment industry, ongoing publications by the Writer's Group, and the efforts toward creating International Translation Day media for 2022; also discussed ATA's social media strategy and areas in which greater cohesion and efficiency could be achieved with outside help.
- Heard updates from President-Elect and Professional Development Committee Chair Veronika Demichelis on the paid and Back to Business Basics webinars held during the period of October 2021-January 2022, the successful Spanish Division virtual workshop, Keeping Your Spanish Sharp, a discount for FIT member associations and the advertising of ATA webinars in FIT sister associations that have been achieved through this partnership, and plans toward building a fully virtual ATA conference in the spring of 2023.
- Heard updates from Treasurer and Strategy Committee Chair Milan on research on machine translation, remote simultaneous interpreting, the success of the Innovation in Translation Summit, and the need to continue outreach to T&I schools to increase membership.
- Heard updates from Executive Director Bacak on progress implementing the association management software (AMS), including that the agreement with Nimble had been signed after an outside, vetted consultant negotiated \$44,000 in savings on the contract; the AMS could be implemented by the end of 2022.
- Heard updates from President Sánchez Zampaulo on the upcoming International Federation of Translators (FIT) Congress in June 2022, the decision that will need to be made by FIT by the end of February on whether the Congress will be held in person in Cuba or online.
- Approved the appointment of Ted Wozniak as the ATA representative to FIT.
- Heard updates from Advocacy Committee Chair Ben Karl on ATA's participation in the 2022 JNCL-NCLIS Virtual Language Advocacy Day and the lack of translation and interpreting "asks" in documentation distributed during the event—a departure from previous years.
- Approved appointments to several ATA committees.
- Approved the appointment of the following members to serve on the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee: Yolanda Secos, Izumi Suzuki, Frieda Ruppaner-Lind, and Danielle Maxson. Ted Wozniak is the chair.

- Heard updates on the compensation survey, learned how the 2019 survey results and report would be distributed and noted the need to form an ad hoc committee for the next survey.
- Discussed the proposed sponsorship by ATA of the development of a web-based version of the Apples-to-Apples-like vendor management card game called Fruit Vendor.
- Heard an update from President-Elect and Conference Organizer Demichelis on plans for the ATA 63rd Annual Conference, Los Angeles, October 12-15, 2022, including pros and cons of holding a totally in-person conference as well as current health and safety measures with regard to masking and vaccinations.
- Was thanked by Edna Lucía Santizo, Spanish Language Division administrator, for the Board's work and by Paul Koehler, Japanese Language Division administrator, who also noted concern about the number of JLD session slots during annual conferences.