



From the President

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I Can No Other Answer Make But Thanks

Thanks to all conference attendees who, despite the unfavorable economic climate, decided to make an investment in their careers and to come to the world's premier event in the translation and interpreting industry. A collegial atmosphere and pink flamingos strategically placed around the conference grounds marked ATA's 49th Annual Conference, November 5-8. Nearly 1,300 attendees from more than 30 countries gathered in Orlando, Florida, to network and participate in pre-conference workshops and more than 150 educational sessions. The mayor of Orange County/Orlando sent his greetings and proclaimed the week of the conference to be Translators and Interpreters Week.

Thanks to President-elect and Conference Organizer Nick Hartmann, who did a great job pulling everything together. The initially dreaded pink flamingo theme eventually grew on him, and he could be seen carrying a small, fluffy toy version of the bird around the conference as he checked to see that everything was running smoothly. Thanks also to Teresa Kelly, who once again shone in her role as ATA's meeting planner and administrative coordinator, and to the entire ATA staff under the able direction of Executive Director Walter Bacak.

Thanks to all the presenters, without whom there could be no conference, and to all the distinguished speakers invited by the division administrators. Thanks to our special guests: Dr. Erik Camayd-Freixas, professor of Latin American literature and director of the Translation and Interpretation Program at Florida International University, who made international headlines with his essay "Interpreting After the Largest ICE Raid in U.S. History: A Personal Account"; Donald Barabé, vice-president of operations at the Canadian

Government Translation Bureau; Stephen Sekel, director of the documentation division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management at United Nations Headquarters in New York; and Marie

Thanks to all the candidates who ran for the director positions. This year the Board said goodbye to Jacki Noh and Liliana Valenzuela. We will miss Jacki's frugal ways and Liliana's literary talents, and we wish both of

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King, who is the special projects coordinator for Orange County/Orlando.

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them the best of luck. The Board welcomed Naomi Sutcliffe de Moraes and Lois Feuerle as new directors, and welcomed back Boris Silversteyn and Lilian Novas Van Vranken as returning directors. Thanks to David Rumsey, Izumi Suzuki, and Milly Suazo-Martinez for their willingness to run for the Board and to stick their necks out to contribute to the Association.

And, finally, thanks to William Shakespeare for providing the inspiration for this column.

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Catch the Action from Orlando!

Conference Photoblog

www.ataconference.blogspot.com

Complete Conference Photos

www.atanet.org/conf/2008/photos