

## Candidate Statements

### **President**



Robin Bonthron

My name is Robin Bonthron and I am very proud to have served as AATIA's President since January 2021.

We started 2021 with high hopes of a return to some sort of "normality," but as the year progressed, it became clear to us on the Board that AATIA would have to continue operating as a "virtual" association for the foreseeable future. As President, this situation has brought me both challenges and opportunities, and it has been a learning process from which I hope AATIA has benefited.

I am particularly proud of the outstanding teamwork and strong spirit of collegiality of all of the members of your association's Board. From my perspective, the commitment and creativity of every member of the Board has been a highlight of my presidency. This positive and supportive atmosphere has encouraged me to seek reelection, and I am looking forward very much to building on and extending our achievements next year.

### **Secretary**



Carolyn Simon

After working for many years as a Spanish teacher, I decided to pursue a new career path in 2016 as a Spanish-English translator and interpreter. I primarily work as a freelance translator, writer, and researcher for educational publishing companies. AATIA was one of the first places I turned to when I decided to make this career change. I have taken advantage of their continuing education opportunities, lectures, and social events as a way to connect with others and learn more about the field. I have found everyone I have met to be welcoming and eager to help. I have enjoyed serving as the Board secretary for the past year and look forward to continuing to work with this great organization.

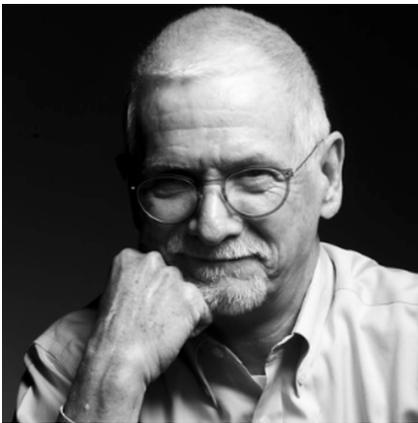


Marion Lemari

**Director of Communications**

I am a freelance translator, an online tutor for Foreign Language (German) and English Essay Writing, and a community interpreter serving the Killeen-Temple-Ft. Hood metropolitan area. I have a master’s degree in Translation and Interpreting from the Center for Translation Studies at UIUC and a bachelor’s degree in Communication. My goal is to use my skills and theoretical knowledge to support all aims of the AATIA. This includes aiding the organization with the publication and distribution of information relevant to the profession, supporting newcomers and seasoned professionals alike, and promoting various community outreach efforts to the best of my ability.

**Director of Finance**



Michael Meigs

Michael Meigs has served as AATIA finance director since 2019. He translates works from French, German, Spanish, and Swedish. He was awarded the 2020 American Translators Association Galantière translation prize for his version of Spanish author Dolores Redondo’s All This I Will Give to You and the 2011 translation prize of the American-Scandinavian Foundation for Lars Gustafsson’s The Dean. He interprets French and Spanish. Michael is secretary and bursar of Gilbert & Sullivan Austin, publisher of [www.CTXLiveTheatre.com](http://www.CTXLiveTheatre.com), a member of AATIA’s Literary Special Interest Group, the American Theatre Critics Association, the ATA, and ALTA. He served for more than thirty years as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Department of State.

**Director of Membership**

**(Waleska Bonthron – no bio or photo received)**

**Director of Professional Development**



Seth Hammock

As a regular member of the AATIA for the past 8 years, it is an honor to run for the Director of Professional Development role. Early in my career members helped me, now I want to give back.

My experience in a professional development role began in 2005 as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Bolivian Andes. Drawing on my education in Computer Science from Baylor University, I partnered with Save the Children in writing curricula for IT vocational programs for high schools. Graduating students earned paid internships at internet cafes.

Returning to Austin in 2008, I worked in software before earning my Master Court Interpreter license for Spanish. Since then, I’ve built a flourishing practice in personal injury and criminal law.

If elected, I will identify unique professionals and opportunities, through which members will acquire new knowledge and skills for a rapidly changing technology-based job market.