

Exam Committee Report

October 20, 2023

Members	Position	Email address
Cecilia Sessarego	Chair (not continuing)	cdas@telus.net
Mayada Tawachi	Co-Chair	mtawachi@hotmail.com

A. Description: This committee works closely with ATIA's Administrative Assistant, President, and other Board Members to assist ATIA on exam related matters. Its objectives include reviewing and improving exam marking guidelines and criteria, helping in exam text selection, providing feedback on marking and assessment of ATIA's Associate Level Exams, and offering peer support and collaboration to markers to assist them in giving objective feedback and fair assessment to exam candidates.

B. Ongoing activities/discussions:

1. Review of comments by markers: When Cecilia and I review the comments provided by markers, we look for: errors on the grammatical and semantic levels, the mechanics of writing, procedures used in the translation process by the candidate: modulation, transposition, borrowing, literal...etc., in order to justify the marking/feedback against the rubrics. **Note: The EC provides input to ATIA's Administrator.**
2. Texts selection: We help ATIA by suggesting texts to be included for practice/sample exams or for use as exams.
3. Feedback & assessment on marking of ATIA's Associate Level Exams:
For the most part EC members are not Certified in the language combinations of the exams we are asked to review the comments for. Errors in these languages may have different weights (grammatical, semantic, discursual, etc..) than in English. When there are failed exams, Allison asks EC members to review only the comments made by the markers to ensure that there are no issues and that they are appropriate, before sending the results to the candidates.
4. Support: Offering peer support and collaboration to markers to assist them in giving objective feedback and fair assessment to exam candidates
5. Criteria for exemption from Associate level exam: Each **candidate's application** is dealt with individually. We discuss bypassing the associate level exam based on the following:
 - Degrees and transcripts from overseas must be accredited by a recognized Canadian organization such as IQAS or WES.
 - The medium of the language of instruction abroad.
 - The course description for courses taken: for instance, in translation vs. literature, linguistics, language courses ...etc. Courses taken in translation are the ones that matters most as the candidate is exposed to the theoretical and practical aspects of translation.
 - Candidates with degrees from or who studied in a country where English is not an official language will need to pass the editing and /or reading comprehension exam(s)

C. Goals for next year:

- To have more certified translators on board, with different language combinations.
- To continue to revise/provide suggestions relative to the marking rubrics provided by markers.
- To work closely with other committees in order to assist associate members become certified through developing incentives for mentorship...etc.
- To work in parallel with the vision/mission of ATIA while promoting ATIA as a professional and ethical association.