

It is an honor to be nominated for the Board of Directors of NAJIT. For two decades, I have been involved in all aspects of interpretation and translation fields, and I believe that my broad range of experience will be an asset to ensure that NAJIT continues to provide the services and resources for its members.

I have been a NAJIT member for several years. For me, joining NAJIT was the first step, and perhaps, the most important step in building my interpretation and translation career. I became a certified court interpreter after joining the organization. I remember the first NAJIT annual conference I attended and how I was excited to meet colleagues in person, but by the end of the conference, I felt empowered to continue my freelance business, not only because of the knowledge gained, but also because of the networking and friendships developed. I have always tried to give back to the organization and the profession when and where I could.

As a member of the NAJIT Board of Directors, I hope to bring with me the experience gained during my years of service with other organizations. I have worked as a project manager, program director, interpreter, translator, lecturer, language instructor, and editor. Over the years, I served in several non-profit organizations. I have presented and co-presented in workshops and conferences. I have a long history when it comes to volunteering which makes me committed to the success of the organizations.

The interpretation and translation industries have been undergoing major changes and I see a greater role for NAJIT in facilitating better communication between freelancers, providers, agencies, courts, and an end client. Organizations like ours function thanks to the dedication of volunteers who are passionate about the issues that matter to their members. An important aspect that I would like to work on is developing more and closer cooperative working relationships with organizations outside NAJIT whose goals and missions compliment those of our organization.

Being a freelancer, I know freelancers' needs and interests. As a Board member, I will keep my eyes on defending those interests. Also, it can be quite comforting to know that there are colleagues available to you who share the same interests at the click of a mouse. These are areas where I believe that most of my strengths are and where I hope to get an opportunity to work on fostering advocacy, member involvement and volunteerism. However, I understand that serving on a Board of Directors is more about doing the work that is required to make the organization run.

I am a strong believer in professional organizations, what they can accomplish, and passionate about their missions, that is why I am interested in joining the NAJIT Board in order to become involved with something I feel passionate about with like-minded people. I am ready to offer actionable and on-point advice, motivation, and interest as much as I can. I am ready to take on tough issues and work through conflicts while respecting members and inspiring collaboration, ready to achieve resolutions while keeping working relationships intact, and ready to open doors to donors, and focus on the mission of NAJIT.

As NAJIT continues to grow, I would like to have a more active role in that growth. I will do my best to make a difference in the future of NAJIT and will always strive to do what is the best for the judicial interpretation and translation community.