On behalf of the FIT Education and Professional Development Committee, we are hereby requesting that the International Federation of Translators please consider maintaining the FIT Education and Professional Development Committee as such, based on the work-plan our committee submitted initially, and the previously established goals that committee members are committed to fulfill. Our request is based on the fact that future committees and task forces will be the central theme for FIT upcoming Council meeting in Baku, whereby the needs of each of them will be analyzed and discussed in detail.

Gathering and monitoring updated information related to educational institutions, training opportunities and corresponding standards constitutes an important and long-term task that only an established committee can accomplish in an effective and efficient manner.

The main tasks which are under way or envisaged for the future include:

- Continue gathering and monitoring important updated information on trainings and recognized educational programs for translators and interpreters, including undergraduate and graduate programs, in order to update an established database on a regular basis, which maintains a repository listings of translation and interpretation training institutions and organizations.
- Encouraging collaborative communication channels among organizations, training and educational institutions to develop and share information related to educational and training opportunities for interpreters and translators.
- Continue identifying existing qualifying, accreditation and/or recognized certification programs for interpreters, translators and terminologists and initiate the task of developing suggested recommendations relevant to educational and training guidelines.
- Consider conducting a follow up needs assessment survey, encouraging a more active participation among FIT membership.

Our committee was able to conduct a needs assessment survey among FIT members and gather views, opinions and statistical information related to existing educational, training and professional development opportunities as well as ongoing programs for translators, interpreters and terminologists in order to facilitate an effective exchange of information.

There is an extensive amount of work still to be done on a regular basis, and our committee is committed to carry on the goals set forth previously. We remain confident looking forward to recruitment of additional volunteer members to lend a helping hand towards the accomplishment of our ambitious work-plan.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration to our request, we remain,

Sincerely,

Thelma Gómez-Ferry, Asociación Panameña de Traductores e Intérpretes (APTI)Emma Garcia, Colegio Nacional de Licenciados en Traducción e Interpretación Co-Chairs | FIT Education and Professional Development Committee