

ASFLA NEWS

Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Newsletter

August 2016

Message from the President

Brian Dare (on behalf of the ASFLA executive)

As we move towards September with its promise of warmer weather, we also look forward to the upcoming 2016 ASFLA Conference. The team of Sally Humphrey and co have been hard at it preparing what is looking like an excellent program. Details are available in the newsletter and we ask that you promote the conference to friends and colleagues as widely and fiercely as you can.

On a wider note, I am pleased to say that ASFLA continues its close connection to and ongoing support of the Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers (SPELT). Over the years, ASFLA has sponsored a number of educators from Australia to present at the SPELT round of conferences held across Pakistan. I was very fortunate to be that person in 1999 and it made a lasting impact on me. The two things that stayed with me most were the boundless generosity of our Pakistani colleagues and the thirst for ways to improve educational outcomes in a country with really desperate educational needs. So it with great pleasure that we are able to sponsor Christine Ludwig this year to present at the conferences to be held in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad in October and November. Christine, well known to many of you in the SFL field for her work within the Queensland Education Department, is an outstanding educator who continues her good work more recently in East Timor.

Another positive development in Pakistan has been the establishment the Ruqaiya Hasan Online SFL Course for a group of Pakistani

teachers. Zakia Sarwar, sister of Ruqaiya and the Honourable Executive Director of SPELT has been a real force in getting this off the ground. Her request for ASFLA support to provide the course book for the ten teachers was quickly agreed to by the ASFLA committee. And so it is that Christine will have some extra baggage when she heads off to Karachi!. Ruqaiya was very keen to see the on-line course get off the ground and would no doubt be pleased to see how quickly it has been put in place with the generous support of various colleagues.



A symposium to honour Ruqaiya Hasan was held in February. There is a report on page 2 of the newsletter. On behalf of ASFLA, I would like to thank the team at Macquarie University for organising this fitting tribute. In particular, we thank Annabelle Lukin, Carmel Cloran, David Butt, Geoff Williams and many others for their time and efforts.

To finish, a quick word of thanks to Trish Weekes for her generous work in preparing this newsletter.

I look forward to catching up with you all in Sydney in September.

Brian

bdare@lexised.com

Brian Dare

In this issue

- Hasan Symposium report
- Tribute to Sue Bremner
- News about ASFLA conference 2016
- Photos from ISFC conference

Please let us know if you have any news that should appear on these pages or if you have any ideas about what you'd like to see:
asflanews@gmail.com

Ruqaiya Hasan: A Life in Linguistics

On Monday 15th February and Tuesday 16th February, 2016, a symposium was held at Macquarie University to honour the life and work of Ruqaiya Hasan. The organisers of the symposium did a wonderful job in creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere and by including a variety of perspectives on Ruqaiya's work.

Monday 15th February was a workshop day consisting of four half-day sessions:

Hasan on language, linguistics, semantic variation and ideology (Annabelle Lukin and Geoff Williams)

Hasan on verbal art (David Butt, Jonathan Webster and Jennifer Yameng Liang)

Hasan on text in context, language in society (Alison Moore and Wendy Bowcher)

Hasan on meaning (Dr Carmel Cloran)

The second day was a conference. As delegates entered the symposium room, there was a PowerPoint presentation rolling. The slideshow was



a moving tribute to Ruqaiya Hasan, featuring a series of photos of Ruqaiya, Michael and their family and friends over time.

The symposium began with a welcome from the Head of the

Department of Linguistics at Macquarie University, Associate Professor Jan-Louis Kruger. Speakers on the symposium day included David Butt, Geoff Williams, Carmel Cloran, Annabelle Lukin and Alex Peng. After lunch, there was a panel session chaired by Wu Canzhong, featuring Wendy Bowcher, Chang Chenguang, Alice Caffarel-Canyon, Rosemary Huisman, Jim Martin and Jonathan Webster. The final presentations of the day were by Jennifer Yameng Liang and Kristin Khoo.

All speakers identified the significance and impact of Ruqaiya's work and how this work continues. The symposium was an inspiring tribute to a brilliant scholar, colleague and friend. If you missed the symposium or if you would like to listen to a podcast or

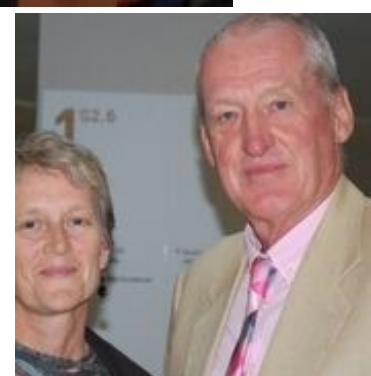


read more about the presentations, please visit this website, organised by Annabelle Lukin.

<http://www.annabellelukin.com/hasan-symposium.html>



Thanks to Ernest Akerejola for the photos



Tributes for Sue Bremner

Earlier this year, we were all shocked and saddened to learn of the loss of our friend and colleague, Sue Bremner. Two of Sue's close friends, Sally Humphrey and Mary Macken-Horarik have offered tributes to Sue for inclusion in this newsletter.

Sue Bremner was not only a great teacher but an enthusiastic, gutsy and pedagogically-sensitive applier of SFL, especially in her work with teachers. Although she worked in more recent years at the AIS as a literacy consultant, Sue was at heart an EAL/D teacher I think. She was keenly aware of the need for oral language development for children and shared a deep knowledge about this with teachers, writing about this in her reports, papers and materials. She often spoke to me about the need to pay attention to the kinds of accountable talk necessary in literacy education. Perhaps this was why she was so attracted to David's Reading to Learn program. It provides marvellous ways of orienting teacher talk towards necessary high-end work on texts, taking learners 'in' to written mode through carefully crafted work on oral language. She was also one of the first to start developing some enjoyable 'ways in' to genre and grammar like her cake making activities and her marvellous work on grammar, in part with Bill Spence, with whom she co-authored a book about grammar in recent years. She was an intellectually-informed eclectic and a marvellous innovator on SFL. We will miss her terribly in the ASFLA community.

Mary Macken-Horarik



Sue Bremner was the unassuming 'superglue' that for many years held together much of the professional learning about language that occurred in primary (and some secondary) schools in NSW. During the day, Sue took her deep knowledge of SFL inspired pedagogies into staff rooms and classrooms of many schools, firstly in her positions as curriculum advisor and literacy and ESL consultants with the NSW Department of Education and then with the Association of Independent Schools (AIS). In the evening she changed her cloak and arrived at whatever university was lucky to have snaffled her that semester to educate pre-service and practicing teachers in literacy, linguistics and TESOL methodology. And, if that wasn't enough, on weekends she could be found setting or marking writing assessments for ACARA, writing textbooks or providing sage advice at board meetings for professional organisations such as ATESOL or PETAA. It makes me tired just writing about this but Sue never looked tired and was always ready to share her experience and expertise – and a funny story from the chalkface!! Sue was never too proud to 'call a friend' for advice on a grammar point and was passionate about supporting teachers to develop a functional metalanguage and passionate about supporting marginalised children to access the language of power. Her online grammar course she developed for the AIS reached a staggering number of teachers. Sue's energy, intelligence and super sharp wit will indeed be sorely missed by the educational semiotics community.

Sally Humphrey

In memory of Sue Bremner: PETAA scholarship for ASFLA Conference 2016

In memory of former PETAA Director, Sue Bremner, PETAA is offering financial support — by providing return travel, three nights accommodation and the conference registration fee — for a practicing teacher of EAL/D primary students to attend the Sydney ASFLA Conference on 27–29 September 2016. To apply, applicants must submit a statement, in no more than 250 words, explaining why you should be supported to attend, and how your attendance will benefit your professional development.

Applications close 31 August and the selected recipient will be informed by 5 September 2016. Email applications to: publishing@petaa.edu.au.

ASFLA 2016

27-29 September, 2016
Australian Catholic
University, North Sydney

2016 ASFLA CONFERENCE
Language as social power:
20th century beginnings,
21st century futures



Have you registered?

There's still time to join us at this wonderful event!

Pre conference institutes Monday 26th September
Conference Tuesday 27th- Thursday 29th September
(Teachers' Day Wednesday 28th September)

**Registration
is now open**

Visit Isia.acu.edu.au/asfla/
to register

For more information



Follow Us on Twitter
#ASFLA16



Visit the conference website
Isia.acu.edu.au/asfla/

ASFLA 2016

27-29 September, 2016
Australian Catholic
University, North Sydney

2016 ASFLA CONFERENCE
Language as social power:
20th century beginnings,
21st century futures



The theme of ASFLA 2016, “Language as social power”: 20th century beginnings, 21st century futures, turns our attention in two directions: to celebrate what SFL has achieved and to reinvigorate what it might do.

First, we celebrate the continuing equity agenda of SFL and its partnerships with professionals working for equity across a range of educational, legal, medical and civic institutions. We especially celebrate its genre-based pedagogies and have taken our theme, ‘Language as Social Power’, from the name of a partnership with the Metropolitan East Disadvantaged Schools Programme (DSP). This partnership ran throughout the 1980s; it is one of a number of influential collaborations that have profoundly impacted the development of SFL theory and pedagogy as well as to national curriculum policy.

Second, we want to reinvigorate discussion of how SFL theory, its community and its partners can continue in the coming decades to be effective agents in filling ‘the very springs of affirmation, motivation and imagination’, which Bernstein (1996:5) argues have been drained by inequitable access to institutional power. Neo-liberal government reform agendas over the past twenty years have seen a dismantling of large-scale collective agencies such as the DSP, with innovations geared towards marketing and testing regimes. Does this necessarily mean a fragmentation of semiotic and pedagogic knowledge building resources for professionals on the front line of servicing marginalized groups? Or are new, perhaps submerged, collectives forming to continue and redesign the transformative equity work of SFL?

We invite you to join us from September 27-29, 2016 at the North Sydney campus of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) to explore these questions further with the SFL community.

For the conference program and registration details, please visit:

<https://lsia.acu.edu.au/asfla/>

Plenary Speakers



Associate Prof. Mariana Achugar
Carnegie Mellon University



Dr Suzanne Eggins
University of Technology, Syd...



Professor Peter Freebody
University of Sydney



Dr Jennifer Hammond



Professor Jim Martin

Keynote Speakers



Associate Professor Robyn Cox
Australian Catholic University



Dr Shoshana Dreyfus
University of Sydney



Associate Professor Louise Ravelli
University of New South Wales



Dr Marie Quinn
Ministry of Education and Hu...



Dr Bronwyn Parkin
University of Adelaide

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What is the Teachers' Day?

On 28th September, we invite you to join teachers, teacher educators and researchers who are presenting papers and workshops of great relevance to the language and literacy concerns of today's teachers. These presenters have been chosen because of their ongoing work in addressing the disadvantage experienced in education by young people who are learning English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) and by those from low socioeconomic and Indigenous backgrounds.

Three invited speakers, Jenny Hammond, Peter Freebody and Marie Quinn, address a range of issues related to the conference theme. Jenny and Peter both reflect from different perspectives on the pioneering 20th century collaboration between systemic linguists and school educators within the Disadvantaged Schools Program (DSP). Each discusses how this work has influenced their own 21st century research supporting equity, including suggestions for practical set of strategies for actively engaging the central task of literacy education in highly institutionalised settings. Marie Quinn outlines the way in which SFL has influenced the work of literacy reform in Solomon Islands, and how this approach has been overlaid with multilingual research into code-switching as a purposeful, communicative strategy to support students attaining and using English.

In addition to these presentations, a number of parallel sessions will showcase project reports, research papers and practical workshops by teachers and teacher educators across a range of contexts of teaching and learning.

Following the presentations and conversations over morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, please join us for the conference dinner at the Waverton North Sydney Club to continue the conversation and enjoy music from SFL's very own Travelling Circumstances band.

ISFC REPORT 2016

ISFC 2016

Learning Language, Learning Through Language, Learning About Language: Glocalising Systemic Functional Linguistics



From 20th to 27th July, 2016, around 200 people gathered in Bandung, Indonesia for the 43rd ISFC event. The Australian SFL community made a good showing with many speakers and attendees from Australia. Two luminaries of our Australian SFL community - Jim Martin and Fran Christie - gave inspiring keynote presentations. There were dozens more presentations in parallel sessions by Australian SFL scholars.

In Indonesia, SFL is embedded in the school curriculum as the 'Genre Based Approach'. Many of the conference presentations and post congress workshops addressed genre pedagogy and so the conference had quite an educational flavour. There were many interesting and stimulating presentations from a range of fields and it was impressive to see so many sessions presented by Indonesian scholars.

The conference was held at the university known by the locals as 'upi' - the Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia. The staff and students of the university were extremely welcoming and helpful. We were particularly impressed by the large band of volunteers who organised everything so well and looked after the speakers.

The dynamic and energetic Dr Emi Emilia led the organisation of this congress. The event had quite a high profile in Indonesia and the Minister for Education gave a speech, receiving some press coverage. Many of Emi's staff members from the Ministry of Education were involved in ISFC as organisers, helpers, drivers, conference speakers and post-congress workshop participants. They must all have been exhausted by the end of the event! At the end of the conference, a number of speakers and participants expressed their thanks and

appreciation to Emi and the ISFC committee for the warm hospitality and success of the event. There certainly was 'a lot of love in the room'!

This year I was involved in the post congress workshop as a co-presenter of one of five workshops. There were five post-congress workshops - one by Jim Martin and Sue Hood, one by Mira Kim, another by Fran Christie and Harni Kartika-Ningsih, and one workshop by David Rose and Clare Acevedo, and one by Pauline Jones and me. Each of the post congress workshops ran for three half days and all were well attended, mostly by Indonesian participants.

When I arrived in Bandung, imagine my surprise (and mild horror) when I saw that our names (and faces!) were on banners outside the conference venue. This is perhaps my 15 minutes of fame and we all had a lot of laughs taking photos with our banners.

All in all, ISFC43 was an inspiring and valuable professional experience for me, and I made many new friends too. We're all talking about next year's ISFC (in Wollongong) and we'll be saving our US dollars for the 2018 ISFC in Boston.

Trish Weekes (see over for my photos)



Happy snaps from ISFC 2016



Fran Christie telling stories about Emi Emilia, to the great amusement of Emi's colleagues.



Our ISFC organiser extraordinaire, Emi Emilia, with Fran Christie.



Ernie D. A. Imperiani (who studied in Australia), Ika Damayanti (PhD student at UOW) and Sue Hood.



Pauline Jones and Meg Gebhard (from the US) playing the angklung (a musical instrument made from bamboo)



The participants in the workshops on Genre Based Approach (which is what the Indonesians call Teaching and Learning Cycle)



Some of our wonderful workshop participants doing a joint construction

NEW BOOKS

Language at Work



Analysing Language Use in
Work, Education, Medical
and Museum Contexts

Edited by
Helen de Silva Joyce

Language at Work

Edited by Helen de Silva Joyce

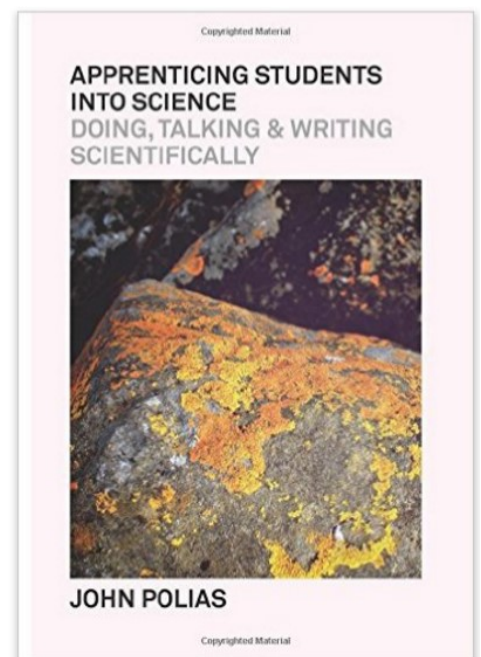
Over recent decades, linguists have used various theoretical frameworks to investigate the language of the workplace and public institutions, and this work continues to expand into new social contexts. This linguistic research has been used for various applied purposes, including the need to improve communication within organisations and with external clients, customers and patients, and to develop communication and language training programs.

Language at Work: Analysing Language Use in Work, Education, Medical and Museum Contexts outlines recent linguistic research in a cross-section of institutions – museums, schools, universities, defence, non-government organisations, universities, hospitals and corporations, as well as Asian-based call centres. The chapters will be of interest to students and scholars of linguistics, language teachers, museum curators, trainers, and educators, in addition to the general reader interested in organisational communication. <http://www.cambridgescholars.com/language-at-work>

Apprenticing students into Science. John Polias.

This is a book for teachers of school science who wish to maximise the learning in their classrooms. It is equally valuable for anyone interested in understanding how the discipline of science goes about doing what it does linguistically. The book's aim is to show how the teaching of science can be improved through an understanding of the patterns in its knowledge and patterns in its language. It makes explicit the implicit patterns for both science teachers and students. By having a pedagogy that is based on denaturalising the naturalised patterns of meaning-making in science, students are not only successful within a lesson and across many lessons but, critically, are scaffolded into a deeper understanding of scientific knowledge.

Apprenticing Students Into Science: Doing, Talking & Writing Scientifically features: sample science texts with analyses of their structure, visuals and language explanations and illustrations of macro-scaffolding, meso-scaffolding and micro-scaffolding examples of cycles of teaching and learning based on theories of language and thought illustrations of pedagogical resonance -- synchronising the patterns in what is being taught with how it is taught easy-to-understand-and-use examples of teaching using the language patterns of science. www.amazon.com



CALLING ALL AUTHORS!

If you have written a book of interest to the ASFLA community,
please send us the details and we can let everyone know

asflaneews@gmail.com

Trish Weekes, Editor

Congratulations to these clever Doctors on their SFL PhD completions

Dr Yaegan Doran

Dr Jing Hao

Dr Harni Kartika Ningsih

Dr Namali Tilakaratna

Please let us know if we've missed yours!



Congratulations to the magnificent supervisors of these successful candidates and thank you to the examiners.

EVENTS

FOR THE DIARY

ASFLA 2016

27-29 September 2016: ASFLA Conference: Language as social power

Australian Catholic University, North Sydney

Pre conference institutes Monday
26th September

Conference Tuesday 27th-
Thursday 29th September

(Teachers' Day Wednesday 28th
September)

Conference website:
<https://lsia.acu.edu.au/asfla>

sally.humphrey@acu.edu.au

ISFC 44 2017

19-24 July 2017: The 44th International Systemic Functional Congress (ISFC)

10-15 July 2016: Post-ISFC Congress

University of Wollongong, NSW

contact: Pauline Jones paulinej@uow.edu.au

LCT C2 2017

3-7 July 2017: 2nd International Legitimation Code Theory Conference

University of Sydney

LCTC2 includes:

- a day of workshops on using LCT in research, curriculum design and pedagogic practice
- three days of talks and discussions
- a day of workshops on publishing, embedding ideas in practice and data analysis

No registration fee.

Abstracts due: 31 October 2016
[https://sites/google.com/site/lcttheoryconf](https://sites.google.com/site/lcttheoryconf)
LCTTheory.conf@gmail.com