

Message from the President

Sharing the title 'President' with others in this world is losing its sheen every day and had me reaching for my Twitter account. So it was very apposite in a world where the 'news' is increasingly contested to see Monica Bednarek and Helen Caple's contribution to helping us all sort this out with their new book *The discourse of news values*.

It is also gratifying for the educational community to see two new excellent contributions; *The discourse of physics* authored by our very own Yaegan Doran and *Functional grammatics: Re-conceptualising knowledge about language and image for school English* written by the very familiar Mary Macken-Horarik, Kristina Love, Carmel Sandiford and Len Unsworth.

Yaegan is clearly not just a sharp and capable ASFLA treasurer but a sharp and insightful contributor to building our understanding of meaning making in Physics, something which I can say from my own work with Science teachers will be extremely helpful. I haven't started reading it yet but it is on the holiday reading list.

I have started reading *Re-conceptualising knowledge* and what a beautifully written and illuminating book it is. I am always saying to teachers about SFL that 'you never get there', but books like this get you just that little bit closer.

It is also heartening to see the *Mapping Genres, Mapping Culture: Japanese texts in contexts* from Elizabeth Thomson, Motoki Sano and Helen de Silva Joyce adding to a growing list of languages other than English drawing on systemic functional linguistics.

As a former teacher of Italian, I have always been interested in how SFL can contribute to the better teaching and learning of languages other than

English. Many years ago, two Italian teachers Lina Russo and Angela Benedetti and I were involved in a project funded by the Spencer Foundation (yes the same Lyle Spencer who started the SRA reading scheme way back when).



Our aim was to see how we could bring an understanding of SFL, in particular the transitivity system to teaching students about how Italian lexico-grammar works. Just before we began the project, I had the chance to ask Michael Halliday if he knew if there was any SFL description of Italian that we could draw on. He suggested a couple of names but wasn't confident we would be able to find a formal description for our purposes. I asked him what we should do if we couldn't find descriptions of the functional groupings, in particular, process, participant and circumstance. Without hesitation he said "Well just make them up yourselves!" And we did, and it was with great joy that I was able to tell Michael a year or so later that we had come up with *processo, partecipante and circonstanza*. He found our *partecipante attaccato* very amusing.

Michael would be well pleased, I suspect, to know that that work and the rest continues to grow.

A year ending thank you to the wonderful ASFLA executive, Shooshi, Alison, Yaegan and Trish for their generous and unswerving support throughout the year. On behalf of us all I wish you all a very happy holiday break and look forward to walking along that road with you in 2018.

Brian
bdare@lexised.com
On behalf of the ASFLA Executive Committee

In this issue

- Preview of the ASFLA conference September 2018
- Book launches galore!

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:
asflaneews@gmail.com

Trish Weekes, Editor

ASFLA Conference 2018



Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association *Community, Capital and Culture: Celebrating SFL*

Wednesday September 26th – Friday September 28th, 2018

UniSA City West Campus, Adelaide, South Australia

CALL FOR PAPERS

This conference continues the celebratory theme initiated at ASFLA 2016 by focusing on the achievements of Systemic Functional Linguistics. The conference is inclusive of all areas and applications of SFL, as well as related fields of inquiry, such as multimodality and LCT. While we welcome papers that report on and critique SFL and its applications, we very much encourage papers to foreground what SFL is getting right – the good news stories; the bonds that have been formed; the advances being made.

For this reason, we have chosen the concepts of **community**, **capital** and **culture** as guiding themes. All three concepts are integral to the architecture and principles of SFL, and therefore offer all speakers broad thematic anchors.

At the same time, we encourage speakers to turn these key concepts onto SFL itself; to constructively reflect on the role of community, capital and culture in SFL. What positive role has the SFL community played in the development of this research? What capital does SFL have? What does SFL culture afford? What other communities have contributed to and engaged with SFL in the development of this research?

In addition to foregrounding the achievements of SFL in and through conference papers, it is anticipated that the theme of 'celebrating SFL' will resonate beyond the conference papers. We see this conference as an opportunity for constructive scholarly reflection, as well as an opportunity to instigate a positive and celebratory disposition that will define ASFLA in Adelaide, 2018.

Presentations are 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of questions.

ASFLA Conference 2018

Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association
***Community, Capital and Culture:
Celebrating SFL***

Wednesday September 26th – Friday September 28th, 2018

Dates for the diary

Conference website launch: **Friday 12 January 2018**

The website launch will be advertised through SYS-FUNC, SYS-FLING, ASFLA e-mail distribution list etc.

This website will be your 'one stop shop' for all ASFLA 2018 information, including: plenary and keynote speakers, conference location, accommodation, and importantly, the portal to submit presentation proposals (abstracts).

Proposal submissions will open on **Friday 12 January 2018**.

Proposal submissions will close on **Friday 30 March 2018**.

Authors will be notified of their submission outcomes by **Friday 27 April 2018**.

ASFLA 2018 Conference 26-28 September, 2018

Conference convenor:

David Caldwell

Email: David.Caldwell@unisa.edu.au

SFL Book launches

On November 8th, 2017, the University of Sydney Linguistics Department hosted several book launches. The SFL community was well represented for free drinks and fantastic new publications.



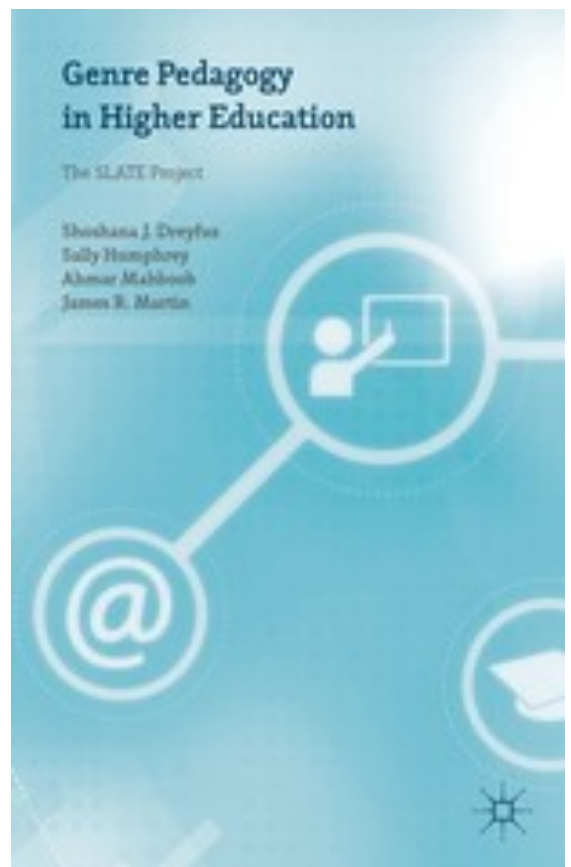
Ahmar Mahboob, Shooshi Dreyfus and Sally Humphrey

Genre Pedagogy in Higher Education. The SLATE Project

Authors: S. J. Dreyfus, S. Humphrey, A. Mahboob and J. R. Martin.

Based on a large action research project, this book elaborates on how genre-based pedagogy can be extended to engage non-English speaking background students in tertiary educational institutions to develop their academic literacy practice, using online resources.

Palgrave Macmillan UK



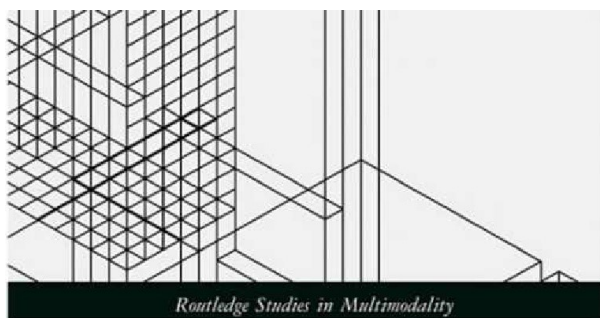
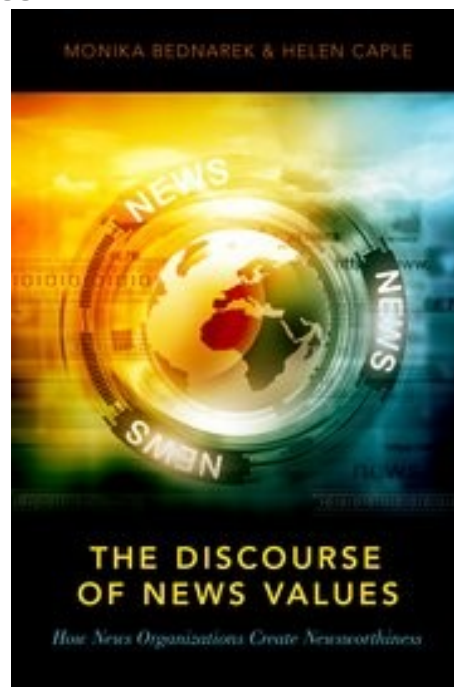
SFL Book launches



Helen Caple and Monika Bednarek

The Discourse of News Values
How News Organizations Create Newsworthiness
Monika Bednarek and Helen Caple
Oxford University Press

- Offers a new theoretical approach: Discursive news values analysis (DNVA)
 - Comprehensive analytical frameworks for linguistic and visual analysis of news discourse
 - Offers a new method: corpus assisted multimodal discourse analysis (CAMDA)
- Oxford University Press**



THE DISCOURSE OF PHYSICS

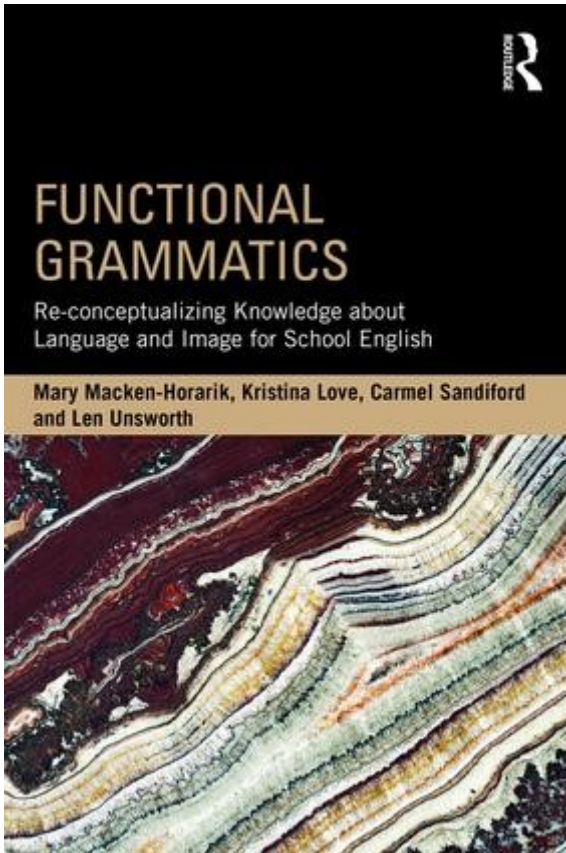
BUILDING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH LANGUAGE,
 MATHEMATICS AND IMAGE

Y. J. Doran



Sue Doran (Yaegan's mum and friend to the SFL community from the Write it Right days), Yaegan Doran and Professor Nick Enfield (Uni of Sydney Linguistics Dept).

More new SFL books!



Functional Grammatiks. Re-conceptualising knowledge about language and image for school English.

by Mary Macken-Horarik, Kristina Love, Carmel Sandiford and Len Unsworth.

This book provides a re-conceptualization of grammar in a period of change in the communication landscape and widening disciplinary knowledge. Drawing on resources in systemic functional linguistics, the book envisions a 'functional grammatics' relevant to disciplinary domains such as literary study, rhetoric and multimodality. It re-imagines the possibilities of grammar for school English through Halliday's notion of grammatics.

Functional Grammatiks is founded on decades of research inspired by systemic functional linguistics, and includes studies of grammatical tools useful to teachers of English, research into visual and multimodal literacies and studies of the genre–grammar connection. It aims to be useful to the interpretation and composition of texts in school English, portable in design across texts and contexts and beneficial for language development.

Routledge

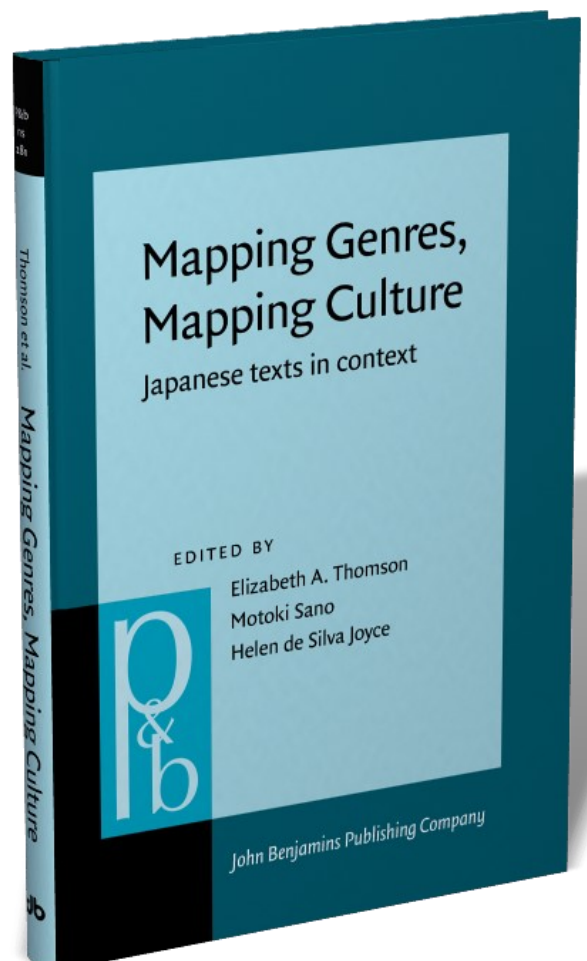
Mapping Genres, Mapping Culture, Japanese texts in context

Editors: Elizabeth A. Thomson, Motoki Sano, Helen de Silva Joyce

Contributors: Helen de Silva Joyce, Noriko Iwamoto, Kazue Kato, Yumiko Mizusawa, Motoki Sano, Katusyuki Sato, Ken Tann, Elizabeth A. Thomson, Masamichi Washitake

John Benjamins Publishing

The purpose of this book is to contribute to our understanding of genre and genre variation in the Japanese language in order to bring to consciousness the nature of Japanese culture and the presuppositions, norms and values found within Japanese society. The type of knowledge enables interventions and agency, as knowing how language works within a culture makes it possible to consciously accept it or to influence and shape it into the future. The various chapters seek to explore social contexts and the norms, values and practices of Japanese culture through the language choices in analysed texts in literature, education, the workplace and in print-based media. These genres collectively form part of the cultural fabric of Japan. The book represents a first step in documenting a selected set of Japanese genres from a social semiotic perspective.



Articles, chapters and other publications

In this newsletter, we would like to let you know about SFL related journal articles, book chapters and anything else of interest to our community. Here are a few articles you may like:

Dreyfus, S. (2017). ‘“Mum, the pot broke”: taking responsibility (or not) in language’, *Discourse & Society*, 28(4), 374-39.

Dreyfus, S. & Bennett, I. (2017). ‘Circumstantiation: taking a broader look at circumstantial meaning’. *Functional Linguistics*, 4(5). Springer Open.

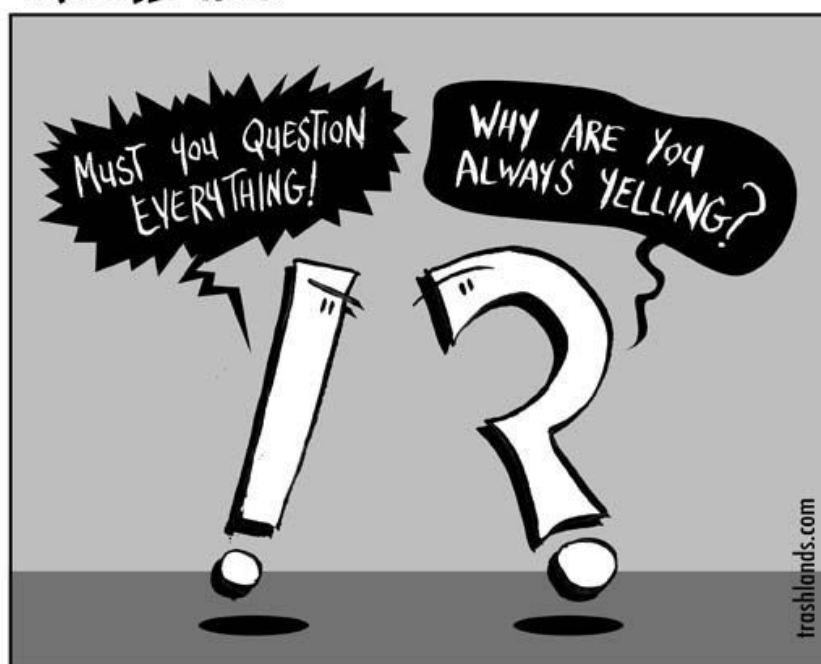
Martin, J. L. (2017). ‘Writing about music: The selection and arrangement of notation in jazz students’ written texts’, *British Journal of Music Education*, 1-17.

I’m sure there are many more articles that may interest our community - let us know and we’ll share them.

asflanews@gmail.com

Trish Weekes, Editor

TrashLANDS



Congratulations!!!!

Congratulations to Dr Eszter Szenes on her PhD graduation.



Congratulations to Associate Professor Mira Kim on her promotion at UNSW.



Congratulations to Dr Jennifer Blunden on being awarded the 2017 Art Association of Australia and New Zealand PhD Prize.



Jennifer's PhD thesis, informed by systemic functional linguistics and Legitimation Code Theory has just been awarded the 2017 Art Association of Australia & New Zealand (AAANZ) PhD Prize, one category of their annual awards that recognise the best in arts writing and research across Australia and New Zealand. The AAANZ is the peak professional body for the region's art writers, curators and artists, and the PhD prize is supported by Taylor & Francis.

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. We would like to know about your promotions, publications and PhD completions.... and anything else! asflnews@gmail.com

ASFLA membership

You may be wondering why you have been asked to pay membership this year.

ASFLA has two revenue sources: membership and ASFLA conference proceeds. In recent years, when someone registers for an ASFLA conference, they receive one year's membership automatically. In years when there is an ISFC in Australia, such as in 2017, an ASFLA conference is not held. That means there is no revenue for ASFLA this year.

So what does ASFLA spend its money on?

Over the past few years, for example, ASFLA membership monies have funded the following:

- Annual ASFLA conferences and upcoming in Adelaide in 2018
- Appraisal symposia held at UNSW (2013, 2015)
- Halliday Symposium at Sydney University 2015
- Hasan Symposium at Macquarie University 2016
- Register and Context Symposium at Macquarie University
- International Educational Semiotics Website
- Numerous international exchanges of scholars
- Student scholarships to ASFLA Conferences
- Over \$16,000 in small grants awarded over the last four years
- Supporting scholars and educators from Australia to present at the Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers (SPELT) in Pakistan over the last twenty years.
- and more... what a bargain

Life membership

Invest in the future of our association
and save yourself some hassle!

Life membership is a great idea. It saves you from having to remember to join each year AND it helps our association. Fees from life memberships have been placed in a special high interest savings account, to be used for future large scale projects. Our funds are mounting nicely, as reported by our Treasurer Yaegan Doran at the last AGM.

Life membership costs \$250.

How to pay ASFLA membership

1. Go to the ASFLA website and click on membership. www.asfla.net

ASFLA

Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association

Home About **Membership** ASFLA Cor

Membership

2. Choose your membership type.

There are four membership types:

Full – \$40

Student – \$25

Life – \$250

School – \$50

3. Follow the instructions about how to pay.