

## Message from the President

As you will read, the ISFC Congress was an outstanding success and we thank Pauline Jones and her team for their boundless generosity and commitment to making it such a success. I was attending the conference myself but had to leave on the first morning after learning of my dear mother Margaret's death. Fortunately, I was able to say goodbye thanks to facetime before returning to Adelaide to be with the family.

I would like to dedicate this edition of the newsletter to Mum. She and my father shared a deep conviction in the value of a good education. They were very clear that all of us (and there were nine!) should be given as good an education as possible given the resources at their disposal. Their commitment to all of us was unstinting and clear: we will give you the chance and the rest is up to you.

Mum left school early but it never stopped her thirst for learning. We remember her going off to carpentry lessons with her sister Pat in the middle of several kid mayhem, bringing home eventually a beautifully crafted coffee table. Later in her life, she took up a position as a parent representative on the South Australian Catholic Schools Commission, a forum that opened up for Mum the opportunity to draw on her sharp intellect, compassion and willingness to speak out firmly and fairly when the occasion arose.



I have much to thank my Mum for but on this occasion I thank her for her ever present inspiration for my own work in which she showed an unflinching interest. Vale Mum.

Many thanks to Trish Weekes again for putting together this new ASFLA logo adorned edition. Can I add my words of encouragement to you all to renew your membership for all the reasons outlined further on in the newsletter.

We also are seeking your support for Shooshi Dreyfus's proposal to set up an Australian Journal of Systemic Functional Linguistics. Read on!

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

### In this issue

- Reports and lots of photos from ISFC2017 and LCTC2
- Ruqaiya Hasan Prize
- Possible ASFLA journal

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

## ISFC conference report: 2017

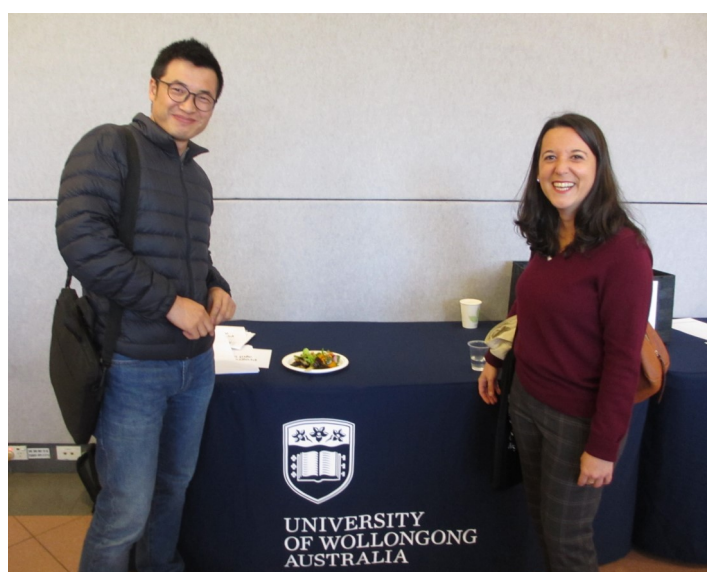
# ISFC 2017

July 10 - 14, 2017: Transforming Contexts

This year, ISFC was held in sunny Wollongong. Over 250 people attended the conference over 5 days from July 10-14 at the University of Wollongong. The theme of the conference was 'Transforming contexts'. The event was organised into streams including a wide range of contexts including: multimodality, advances in theory, professional practice, education, translating, interpreting and multilingualism, discourses of change, and combinations of all these. This event showcased SFL and related theories in all their diversity and multiplicity.

Plenary sessions from Kay O'Halloran, David Butt, Adolfo Garcia, Debra Myhill, Mary Macken-Horarik, Gerard O'Grady, Jim Martin and Karl Maton challenged us all and stimulated many diverting discussions in the breaks. The program was jam-packed and it seems like nearly everyone who attended gave a presentation - there were 8 streams operating at most times. We had the lucky dilemma of having to choose between so many interesting and diverse sessions.

There were also innovative satellite events hosted by the University of Wollongong - 'The Therapeutic Conversation' and 'Moveable Mutables in Participatory Democracy'. Following the conference, there were also several days of the conference Institute. What a marathon for the organisers and the lucky attendees!



It takes many people a long time to organise an event of this magnitude. We recognise the hard work and incredible organising - power of the organising committee for ISFC. These wonderful people worked tirelessly to organise this massive event:

*(in alpha order)*

Pauline Jones (conference chair), Nadia Abdulridha Sakran Al-Esi, Adele Beck Meeta Chatterjee-Padmanabhan, Honglin Chen, Janine Delahunty, Ika Lestari Damayanti, Beverly Derewianka, Shoshana Dreyfus, Mahmud Hutashut, Claire Kembrey, Najme Kheradparvar, Helen Lewis, Erika Matruglio (program chair), Alison Moore, Emily Purser, Emma Rutherford Vale, Annette Turney, Joyce Voerman, Katina Zammit.

On behalf of the ASFLA community, we thank you!



# ISFC conference report: 2017

At ISFC, there were plenty of occasions for socialising and meeting new contacts and catching up with friends. During the breaks, everyone dashed for the sunshine outdoors, to sit outside and chat. There were several entertaining drinks occasions and, of course, the conference dinner. The dinner was held at a seafood restaurant on the beach. Everyone enjoyed the entertainment from the SFL band - the Straitened Circumstances. As the evening progressed, dancing ensued and I promised not to mention any dancing on hands (Shooshi and Sally). I must say that a room full of celebrating SFL people make quite a din! A great evening was had by all.

Our Chinese colleagues reported that ISFC was a great chance to catch up with other Chinese academics. As they are spread all over China, they don't see each other very often. We hear that Dai Fan is writing a biography of Michael Halliday (with Michael's blessing). That's interesting news, so we'll all wait with keen interest to hear more.

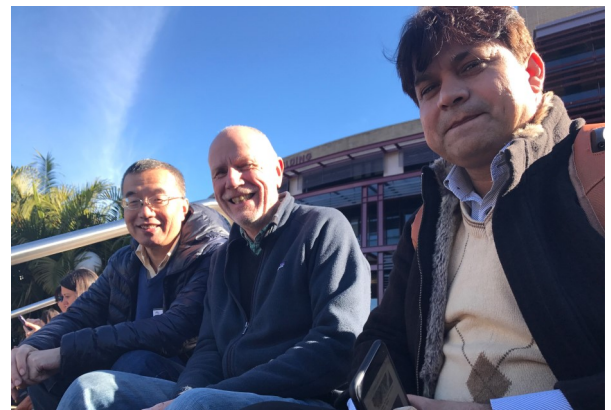


**The Straitened Circumstances Band - John Knox (drums) Rosie Balcomb (vocals), Peter White (sax), Ayako Ochi (sax) and Theo van Leeuwen (keyboard).**

Photo: Ayako Ochi

All in all, ISFC2017 was a successful and fabulous conference, and everyone had a great time. The next ISFC will be held in Boston USA on July 23-27, 2018. The next ASFLA conference will be held on September 26-28 at the University of South Australia in Adelaide. Mark those dates in your diary!

Trish Weekes





# ISFC conference report: 2017



Some happy snaps from the conference drinks.

Thank you to all these lovely people who kindly allowed me to photograph them!

Very amateur photos by Trish



# ISFC conference report: 2017

These lovely photos were taken by Ernest Akerejola. Thanks Ernest!



# Inaugural Ruqaiya Hasan Prize

At ISFC 2017 the inaugural Ruqaiya Hasan Award was presented, by Professor Wendy Bowcher of Sun Yat-sen University, to the emerging scholars Ms Neda Karimi and Ms Kristin Khoo, who are each working closely with Professor Hasan's ideas and methods.

The contribution of Professor Ruqaiya Hasan to the theory and body of work we now call Systemic Functional Linguistics is impossible to weigh and widely acknowledged, but after her untimely death in 2015 it was felt important by the Australian SFL community that we establish a way of continuing to honour her life and work and fostering its ongoing

The idea of a scholarly award was first canvassed at the 2015 ASFLA AGM. An ASFLA sub-committee was set up and plans were made to call for nominations for the award and present it to the emerging scholar with the deepest engagement with Ruqaiya's work at the 2016 ASFLA conference. However health issues among the ASFLA executive in 2016 prevented us from delivering on this plan.

Come 2017, we at the University of Wollongong were preparing to host ISFC 44 (of course a lot of planning had been going on well before that, under Pauline Jones's expert leadership!) With no ASFLA 2017 as a result, it was important to make a presentation of the Ruqaiya Hasan Prize this year, and not lose any more momentum. So we organised for an initial award at the 2017 ISFC, choosing from among those emerging scholars who'd already submitted abstracts, with the ongoing award – based on a wide call for nominations as originally planned – to be presented at ASFLA conferences annually from next year.

We had a very difficult decision, from an initial field of 10 people, most of them current PhD students. In the end the award was jointly presented to Neda Karimi and Kristin Khoo, both PhD students at Macquarie University.

Kristin Khoo, who is supervised by David Butt and Annabelle Lukin, has been working largely with cohesive harmony, on psychotherapeutic data that was gathered under an NHMRC-funded collaboration between eminent psychiatrist Professor Russell Meares, from Westmead Hospital/University of Sydney, and SFL scholars at Macquarie. Kristin's PhD extends her honours research, some of which is featured in her excellent chapter on cohesive harmony in the *Festschrift for Ruqaiya* edited by Wendy Bowcher and Jennifer Yameng Liang, *Society in Language, Language in Society: Essays in Honour of Ruqaiya Hasan*, London: Palgrave, 2015. Some of Kristin's presentations to psychotherapy audiences can be viewed at [https://www.psychevisual.com/Kristin\\_Khoo.html](https://www.psychevisual.com/Kristin_Khoo.html).

Neda Karimi is supervised by Annabelle Lukin and Alison Moore (as external from UOW). Neda is using semantic networks and context networks to examine palliative care discourse and is strengthening a second longstanding collaboration between scholars at the University of Sydney, principally Professor Phyllis Butow, and SFL researchers from Macquarie/Wollongong. One section of Neda's doctoral work will appear shortly as a chapter in *Perspectives from Systemic Functional Linguistics*, edited by Akila Sellami Baklouti and Lise Fontaine.

In thinking about the way that scholarly traditions extend and develop, it is worth mentioning that the awarding of this prize to Khoo and Karimi highlights David Butt's contribution, over several decades, to extending Ruqaiya's approach in general, and his leadership in taking it into the field of health care in particular. It also recognises the important work of Annabelle Lukin in fostering scholarly engagement with Hasan's unparalleled body of work.

Alison Moore, August 2017

*see over for more information about the Ruqaiya Hasan Prize*

**Congratulations Neda Karimi and Kristin Khoo!**

# Ruqaiya Hasan Prize

## **Eligibility and selection criteria for the Ruqaiya Hasan Prize are as follows.**

The award is available to scholars who:

1. are early in their research career, which the committee specified as from senior undergraduate year (honours) to having recently completed a PhD (within 2 years of the closing date for applications), and
2. are studying or have recently completed their studies at an Australian university.

The award will be made to the applicant who, in the opinion of the selection committee:

1. has most significantly extended the tradition of SFL across the spectrum of themes and approaches that Hasan focused on over her career, and
2. has achieved most relative to opportunity.

Those interested in applying or nominating for the 2018 award should watch this newsletter and the sys-func email list for a call for nominations.



## New ASFLA logo



### But what does it MEAN????

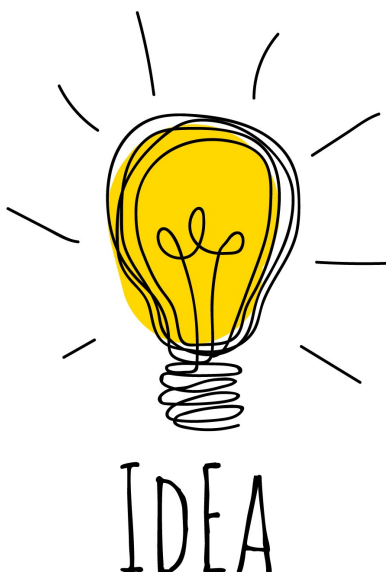
We think this logo is friendly and shows that ASFLA is about people. If anyone would like to do a multimodal analysis... go right ahead! We will publish it in the next newsletter.

This is our new ASFLA logo! I hope you like it. You may be wondering why a logo is necessary for our association. There are a few reasons:

1. Every professional association has an identity and logo. ASFLA deserves one too.
2. The academic sphere is flooded with associations about literacy, language and linguistics. A distinctive logo could be helpful for recognition and identification.
3. In published materials, ASFLA has used a variety of fonts and sizes and colours. It's a hassle to choose - so now we have a standard one that we can all use.

*Trish Weekes, Editor*

## Apply for small grants



Have you got a great idea but not enough money to make it happen? Maybe ASFLA can help.

ASFLA offers small grants of \$500 - \$1500 for great ideas.

Email our president Brian Dare with your idea and we will see if ASFLA can help you. There's no deadline for small grants - they are available any time.



# 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](http://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.

# Would you like an ASFLA journal?

One of our committee members, Shooshi Dreyfus has put forward a proposal for an ASFLA journal. She presented her ideas at the AGM for ASFLA, held during the ISFC conference and the idea was supported by all members.

## Rationale

Shooshi argued that:

-We need more journals to publish SFL papers in. Functional Linguistics (published in China) has an international focus. Functions of Language is harder and harder to get into

•We have enough of a critical mass here in Australia to support our own journal

•We are a hub of SFL research

Teun Van Dijk (editor of Discourse & Society, Discourse & Communication and Discourse Studies) agrees.

## Australian Journal of Systemic Functional Linguistics

Issue 1 No 1

March 201?



## We need people to make this happen!

We need people to get involved, so that a proposal can be prepared and so that publishing options can be considered. If anyone would like to continue this discussion, or offer some suggestions, please contact Shooshi

[shooshi@uow.edu.au](mailto:shooshi@uow.edu.au)



# LCT2 conference report

## LCTC2 Second International Legitimation Code Theory Conference

More than 120 participants enjoyed the LCT2 conference from 2-6 July at the University of Sydney. Many participants were drawn from the SFL community and there were many familiar ASFLA faces in the room as participants and as speakers at the conference. There are a lot of us who are 'bilingual' in SFL and LCT. There was a large group of attendees who had come all the way from South Africa, and many linguists were among these too. attendees also came from Brazil, Mexico, Denmark, the USA and more.

Monday was a workshop providing intensive instruction on LCT concepts, while the main conference was held on Tuesday – Friday.

Professor Karl Maton's opening presentation set the scene for the conference. There followed many interesting and worthwhile sessions, with lots of Cartesian planes, as would be expected!

I took a few snaps of people during the breaks . It may seem as though all we did was eat, but that's not true. There was also lots of talking and thinking and collaboration throughout the conference.

Jodie Martin, a Fellow at the LCT Centre and SFLer, was the key event organiser and she did a magnificent job of preparing for the event. Everything ran like clockwork. As you can see in the photo on the right, Jodie is still smiling despite all the hard work at the conference. Yaegan Doran, pictured with Jodie, is also smiling - he's just begun a Fellowship at the LCT centre too, as well as being the ASFLA treasurer and doing a great job for ASFLA members. (*continued over*)



## LCT2 conference report (continued)

The LCT conference featured many presentations from people who are 'bilingual' in SFL and LCT. We are very keen on acronyms indeed. The program featured these 'bilinguals' (and I'm sorry if I've missed anyone.)

Yaegan Doran

Jodie Martin

Jim Martin

Sue Hood

Daniel O'Sullivan

Ken Tann

Erika Matruglio

Lucy Macnaught

Eszter Szenes

Anna-Vera Sigsgaard

Namala Tilakaratna

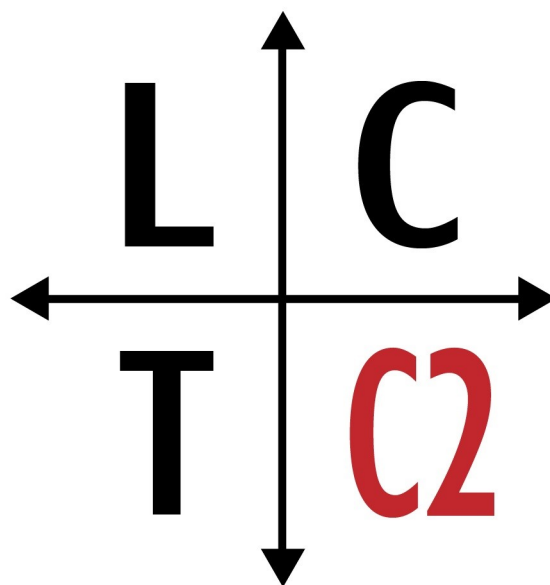
Jing Hao

Jennifer Blunden

Gina Roach.

Trish Weekes

And there were many more ASFLA members in the audience too.



The conference inspired many fascinating conversations and potential collaborations, so it will be interesting to see the next developments in LCT and SFL.

The organisers of the conference did a fantastic job and by all accounts, LCT2 was a roaring success. We look forward to LCT3 which will be held in South Africa in 2019.

Trish Weekes  
Editor

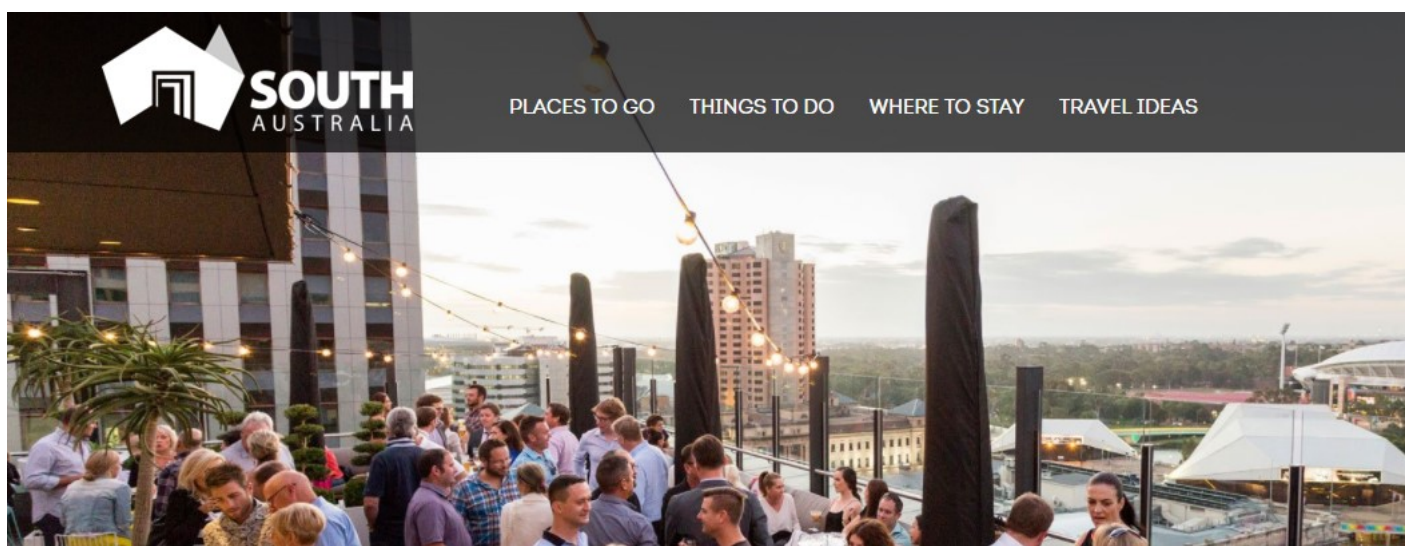


# ASFLA 2018



**watch  
this**   
**space**

For the diary:  
ASFLA 2018  
September 26-28



Conference convenor:

David Caldwell

Email: [David.Caldwell@unisa.edu.au](mailto:David.Caldwell@unisa.edu.au)

**MORE DETAILS TO COME**