

ASFLA NEWS

Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Newsletter

December 2014

Message from the President

It's been another busy year for ASFLA community. We're grateful to those folks around Australia who have hosted and presented conferences, seminars, courses, and maintained websites, written letters and columns, etc. All of these activities enable members to participate in a host of intellectual and social activities, and help sustain the broad community of those interested in SFL. *New Texts, New Challenges*, the 2014 conference convened at UNSW by Peter White, Helen Caple and team was a great success. We look forward to *Linguistics, Literature and Verbal Art: Inheritances and Developments*, the 2015 conference organised in Brisbane by Garry Collins & Lindsay Williams. The national conferences enable the organisation to support a range of other activities. February 2015 is set to be a busy time with the symposium to honour Michael Halliday at USyd (Feb 17th) and the Appraisal workshop at UNSW (Feb 18th & 19th). We also welcome scholars from international communities; for example, Professor Adolfo Garcia's recent talks at Macquarie University, USyd and University of Wollongong attracted a good deal of interest. We look forward to a visit from Professor Nguyen Van Hiep from Hanoi early in the new year.

All the best for the holiday season,

Pauline Jones (on behalf of the ASFLA executive).

Please send us your news and photos so we can celebrate our achievements and keep everyone up to date on what's happening in our field of social semiotics, in Australia and internationally.

asflanews@gmail.com

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- Upcoming conferences and events
- Reports from Indonesia and Vietnam





Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association 2014 Conference

challenges. new texts. new challenges. new texts.

ASFLA 2014: thanks from the convenors

Excerpt from Helen Caple's closing address

The conference began with three wonderful institute days. Our plenaries during the week, I think we all agree, have been fantastic in what they have been talking about and in the conversations that were created around their talks. To our plenaries, thank you very much for accepting our invitation to come and to speak to us. It's been a pleasure having you and we thank you very much for coming and presenting.

And of course, most importantly, we have had all the spaces between the plenaries filled up with all of you. We've had some great sessions and some really enthusiastic presentations from a wide range of disciplines covering a wide range of topics. We've tried to make sure that you had some great sessions across the day and some great discussions. We hope that you have made new connections with people across the conference.

I am particularly grateful to my colleagues who were on the committee organizing the conference with me : Peter White, Alexanne Don, Louise Ravelli, Michelle Zappavigna and Mohammad Makki. You have been fantastic and I thank you for your support throughout the conference. We also had a team of volunteers who have performed particularly well and took very good care of us at the conference.



At the book signing

Top tweets at the conference

linguistsontheloose retweeted
Paula Ferrari @twinteachie · Oct 1
Raklao presents her Masters research on cohesion analysis of narrative discourse of Thai schizophrenic speakers #ASFLA2014

linguistsontheloose retweeted
ド博士 @eldonn · Oct 1
Changpeng || stance in Chinese and Australian newspapers: a corpus comparison using Appraisal analysis #asfla2012

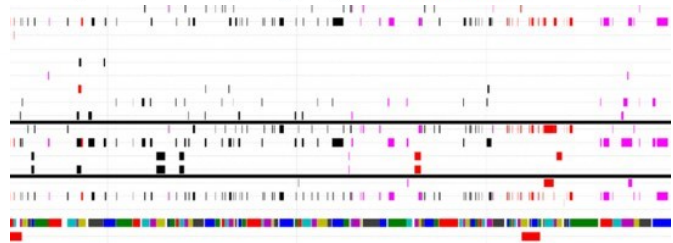
linguistsontheloose retweeted
Jodie Martin @jodie__martin · Oct 1
Ping Tian || Semiotic space in multimodal storytelling : the case of "Gorilla" (by Anthony Browne) #ASFLA2014

linguistsontheloose retweeted
ド博士 @eldonn · Oct 1
Makki || difference between newspapers suggest they operate under different ideas of newsworthiness - esp re news in the West #asfla2012

Jodie Martin @jodie__martin · Oct 1
Bednarek & Caple || News values - towards a linguistic framework #ASFLA2014

linguistsontheloose retweeted
Paula Ferrari @twinteachie · Oct 1
Dreyfus - mapping international students responses to texts - most struggle with the "nub" ie interpretation of findings #ASFLA2014

linguistsontheloose @ASFLA2014 · Oct 1
First plenary on the final day: Kay O'Halloran || Frontiers of Multimodal Analysis: an interdisciplinary programme #ASFLA2014



ASFLA2015 @asfla2015 Follow

Congratulations to the organisers of #ASFLA2014 - an enjoyable & stimulating conference. Hope to see everyone in Brisbane in 2015.

EVENTS

FOR THE DIARY

Friday afternoon research student seminars at University of Sydney in 2015

The Semester 1, 2015 course will be taught by Jim Martin focusing on axis (network writing), on Fridays 2-4pm. As usual, all research students welcome.

We now have a textbook for this course, which will be available through the Coop Bookshop at Sydney Uni:

Systemic Functional Grammar: a next step into the theory – axial relations. (J R Martin; Chinese translation and extensions by Wang Pin & Zhu Yongsheng). Beijing: Higher Education Press. 2013.
[ISBN 978-7-04-037518-3]

Second semester next year Len Unsworth will deliver a course on multimodality. And first semester 2016 the course will be delivered by Giacomo Figueredo, focusing on language typology.

(This information is reproduced from the sysfunc mailing list).

Please check the conference websites for the most up-to-date and accurate information on registration details

A symposium to honour Michael Halliday

February 17, 2015 University of Sydney

A flyer for the symposium is on page 4. Please register by February 1st, 2015

Registration and more information:

<http://www.socialsemiotics.org/hallidaysymposium>

Appraisal symposium

February 18 & 19, 2015 University of New South Wales

A flyer for the symposium is on page 5.

Registration and more information:

<http://www.socialsemiotics.org/AppraisalSymposium2015>

ISFC 42

Pre-Congress Institute: 22 – 25 July 2015

Congress: 27 – 31 July 2015 Aachen University, Germany

Abstract submission: 15 October 2014 - 7 December 2014

Notification of acceptance: 15 January 2015

Early registration ends 30 April 2015

Regular registration ends 13 July 2015

A one day educational semiotics symposium is proposed for July 25, 2015. Please see page 5 for more information.

Contact Sally Humphrey to register your interest:

sally.humphrey@acu.edu.au.

Registration and more information:

<http://www.isfc2015.anglistik.rwth-aachen.de/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ISFLA>

ASFLA

Pre conference institutes: September 28, 2015

Conference: September 29-October 1, 2015 University of Queensland, Brisbane

A flyer for the conference can be found on page 6.

Registration and more information:

<http://www.asfla2015.org>

**A SYMPOSIUM TO HONOUR
MICHAEL HALLIDAY: A VISIONARY LINGUIST
IN HIS 90TH YEAR**



Speakers include: David Butt, Frances Christie, Jim Martin, Christian Matthiessen, Clare Painter, Len Unsworth and Geoff Williams.

February 17 2015

9am start with afternoon concluding drinks and celebrations

**Woolley Building
University of Sydney**

This symposium celebrates the achievements of Michael Halliday and reflects on his remarkable insights about language and its central role in all areas of human endeavour and experience.

Registration details:

Participants are asked to register by 1st February 2015. Registration fees (\$40, and \$20 for full time students) are to be paid on the day.

To register visit <http://www.socialsemiotics.org/hallidaysymposium/>

Lunch and morning and afternoon teas will be provided.

For further information contact Frances Christie:
frances.christie@sydney.edu.au

The symposium is generously supported by the Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association.

Appraisal Symposium 2015: Current Issues in Appraisal Analysis

Wednesday February 18th and Thursday February 19th 2015

University of New South Wales

<http://socialsemiotics.org/AppraisalSymposium2015/>

ISFC Educational Semiotics Symposium

July 25, 2015, prior to ISFC Aachen University, Germany

Towards high impact research in school education contexts: methodological synergies

In response to calls to extend empirical studies which meet the stringent evidence-based standards demanded by educational institutions and policy makers (Fang & Coatham, 2012; Myhill, 2011), we invite researchers using SFL educational semiotics to a symposium on July 25, 2015 at the University of Aachen, Germany, prior to the 42nd International Systemic Functional Congress. In keeping with the conference theme, the symposium will provide a forum for researchers conducting qualitative and/or quantitative investigations of teaching and learning in school education to share their methodologies and findings as a means of building a critical evidence base about the value of SFL oriented research in education, thereby challenging perceptions of it as inward-looking. Issues to be covered include:

- Challenges and affordances in investigating the impact of SFL oriented pedagogical innovations (early years, middle years and secondary schooling)
- Building and sharing conceptual understandings of sustainable, effective textual (including multimodal) practices in a range of school contexts
- Designing meta-analyses of SFL oriented research in order to build an evidence base about the “state of the science” of educational semiotics, from which recommendations can be shaped for sustainable future research

Drawing on the experience and expertise of SFL educational researchers, within and across sectors, methodologies and geographical boundaries, we seek to strengthen the documentation and communication of the evidence base about the impact of educational semiotic research, and to form ongoing collaborative research communities that can influence educational decision makers.

A flyer about the workshop, with proposed format and speakers can be found on the Educational Semiotics website: <http://educationalsemiotics.wordpress.com/>

Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association

LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE & VERBAL ART: INHERITANCES AND DEVELOPMENTS

PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTES: SEPTEMBER 28 2015

CONFERENCE: SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 1 2015

(INCLUDES A TEACHERS' DAY)

VENUE: UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND, ST LUCIA, BRISBANE



Literature in general and stories in particular have played a significant role in the history of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). For example, Michael Halliday's (1971) reading of *The Inheritors* by William Golding has been credited with turning many people on to SFL. And, Halliday (1978) also used his analysis of James Thurber's 'The Lover and his Lass' to exemplify the sociosemantic nature of discourse.

This conference, therefore, puts story, literature and 'verbal' art front and centre. What role has literature played in the development of SFL? What does SFL offer researchers and teachers in understanding how stories and other types of literature work? How can it be used to improve our ability to read and write literary texts? What developments are occurring (or required) to better understand the workings of long-form and multimodal literary texts? What do 'literature' and 'verbal art' mean in 2015? How concerned should SFL even be with literature anymore?

However, we would also love to hear researchers' own stories as they use SFL to explore a range of texts in a wide variety of contexts.

CONFERENCE WEBSITE: www.asfla2015.org

EMAIL: conferenceinfo@asfla2015.org

SOCIAL MEDIA: www.facebook.com/ASFLA2015

TWITTER: [@asfla2015](https://twitter.com/asfla2015)

NEWS

Building the SFL community in Indonesia

Pauline Jones and Yaegan Doran have recently visited The Department of English Education at the Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, hosted by Professor Emi Emilia. Yaegan

worked with English Education staff and students on multimodality and with the Physics Education staff on scientific literacy in English. Pauline was keynote speaker at a one-day conference on *Systemic Functional Linguistics and the Teaching of English*. She also gave seminars on classroom applications of SFL for undergraduate and postgraduate students and met with HDR students and other interested scholars. The community, tirelessly led by Professor Emi, is extremely enthusiastic, with increasing numbers of students being trained in Systemic Functional Linguistics and Genre-Based pedagogies. The department is rapidly becoming a centre for Genre-Based Pedagogy in Asia, with students enrolling from across the continent. The University is looking forward to hosting the 2016 ISFC, which will show off the emerging research program, and help forge links between Indonesia and the broader Systemic Functional community.



NEWS

Exciting opportunities for Appraisal and Multimodality in Vietnam

In April-May and October 2014, Peter White, Len Unsworth and Thu Ngo went to Vietnam to give presentations about new developments in SFL with a focus on Appraisal and Multimodality (visual and gestural grammar) and its application in linguistics research in the Vietnamese language and textbook design. The presentations took place at Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences-Institute of Linguistics, Vietnam Education Publishing House and Quy Nhon University. The presentations were much appreciated by Vietnamese researchers, textbook writers and editors and a number of Vietnamese linguistic postgraduate and graduate students from the North and Central regions of Vietnam. The visits Peter, Len and Thu paid to Vietnam are the opening collaborative opportunities for researchers from Australia to work with the Vietnamese researchers and educators, the Institute of Linguistics and Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training. As an initial step, the Director of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences-Institute of Linguistics, Professor Nguyen Van Hiep, is visiting Australia in February 2015 and attending the Halliday Symposium and the Appraisal Symposium. His visit is jointly funded by Australian Catholic University and ASFLA.



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

We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas holiday season!

Trish Weekes, Editor