

Message from the President

By Yaegan Doran

I am writing this on unceded Gadigal land, during a time where the Australian colony's relationship with First Nations peoples seems to be at the forefront of public discussion far more than any other in recent memory. This has, among other things, been precipitated by the Uluru Statement from the Heart that calls for a First Nations Voice enshrined in the constitution and a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of truth-telling about our history and of agreement-making between governments and First Nations peoples. ASFLA has supported the Uluru Statement since it came to fruition, and I encourage those who have not yet read it to do so: ulurustatement.org. I also encourage all of us who are non-Indigenous to listen to the diversity of views within the First Nations community, both those that support the Uluru statement in its entirety and those that have been critical of it for not going far enough. In particular, it is important that, seemingly contra to much of the public discussion so far, we don't let the first step – a First Nations Voice in the Constitution – become the only step, and that we support all of the Uluru statement's goals, including the truth-telling and agreement-making, be fulfilled.



I am also writing this at the end of a huge year for ASFLA and the SFL community in Australia in general – what a year it's been! It began with a gradual thawing of the online world as we moved out of the peak of the Covid years, with many of us back to face-to-face teaching and meetings. For me, the first week back teaching face-to-face was filled with joy, especially from the students, as I had first-year classes full of students in Sydney who had done both Year 11 and 12 online, and so were just so excited to be actually seeing friends in class for the first time in years! The gradual thaw continued as events started to come back into the physical world, tentatively at first, but

In this issue:

- In review: ASFLA Conference 2022
- In review: Forum on Sound Semiotics and Systemic Phonology
- Hasan prize 2022 awarded
- Halliday Prize announced
- ASFLA Incorporation
- News from around the country ...and more!

*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:
lorenzo@lorenzologi.com*

Lorenzo Logi, Editor

Message from the President

eventually in full swing. Examples of this were the Sydney Friday seminars that steadily grew throughout the year to the point where many of us were back listening and chatting both during and after the seminars, as if nothing had happened, and the Sound Semiotics forum held at the beginning of December. The culmination of that was this year's ASFLA conference at Macquarie University. Wowee it was great to be back! Thank you so much and congratulations to Cassie Liardét who convened the conference, as well as the organising team of Sharyn Black, Jing Fang, Yulia Kharchenko, Dragana Stosic, Chavalin Svetanant and Jiayu Wang. And thank you to Shooshi Dreyfus and her team for taking the mantle at The University of Wollongong for the 2023 ASFLA conference!

While we have been progressively coming back face-to-face, a remnant of the Covid period have remained. We have seen a growth in the use of the hybrid format for events, including the ASFLA conference, Sydney Friday Seminars and the Sound Semiotics forum, which has allowed those who cannot make it to be involved, and our events and communities to be more accessible than they were before. Although it is a hangover from the last few years, the turn to hybrid events is something to be excited about as we get better and better at doing it.

As you'll see in these pages, in addition to the events that have been held, there have been a huge number of things that have been happening. In terms of administration, ASFLA has become an Incorporated Association (so we are now technically known as ASFLA Inc!), which required a whole new constitution. In terms of projects, we are well on our way to building the Halliday and Hasan Archive, which is cataloguing materials left in the estates of M.A.K. Halliday and Ruqaiya Hasan. We have established a new international book prize for best monograph, the M.A.K. Halliday Prize, that will be awarded for the first time next year,

the Hasan prize is going strong and Elizabeth Thomson has beautifully driven the Semiotics of Peace, Compassion and Empathy Special Interest Group. But most importantly, you all reading this have wonderfully done everything you wonderfully do! 😊

So thank you all for everything you have done this year, and thank you for everything you will continue to do. More specifically, I'd like to thank the ever-increasing ASFLA team for all their work – on the exec, Shooshi Dreyfus, Trish Weekes, Lorenzo Logi (especially for putting together this newsletter!), Sarah Dowden-Parker, Alison Moore and Helen Caple; the State Reps: Damon Thomas (QLD), Thu Ngo (NSW), Sonja Molnar (VIC), Anne Thwaite (WA), David Caldwell (SA), Nicola Rolls (NT) and Vinh To (TAS); the social media team: Olivia Inwood, Nataliia Laba and Jiani Chen; the Halliday and Hasan Archive Working Group: Helen Caple, Fran Christie, David Butt and Geoff Williams; and the MAK Halliday Prize Working Group: Shooshi Dreyfus, Louise Ravelli, Sonja Molnar and Rosemary Huisman. It is you all who make ASFLA do what it does, so thank you so very much.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter! And I hope everyone has a lovely end of year and a wonderful summer, whatever celebrations you have. I look forward to seeing you all on the other side!

In review: ASFLA 2022

By Lorenzo Logi

Convenor:

Cassi Liardét, Macquarie University

Organising Committee:

Sharyn Black, The University of New South Wales

Jing Fang, Macquarie University

Yulia Kharchenko, Macquarie University

Cassi Liardet, Macquarie University

Chavalin Svetanant, Macquarie University

Dragana Stosic, Macquarie University

Jiayu Wang, Macquarie University

The 2022 ASFLA conference was held at Macquarie University, Sydney, on unceded land of the Wallumattagal clan of the Dharug nation, from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th September, commencing with three pre-conference workshops on Thursday 22nd September. Themed 'Renewal and Resilience: Making Meaning in a Changing World', the conference celebrated SFL's continuing quest for understanding semiosis with a view to making a positive social change. Specifically, the conference highlighted SFL's contributions to understanding how meaning-making resources are used to engage with the issues facing our era of uncertainty and rapid change: pandemics, climate change, infodemics/misinformation, healthcare, war, technological disruptions, access to (online) education, to name but a few. More broadly, the conference provided a forum for scholarly discussion on how the different areas of SFL theory and related disciplines have been applied, adapted, and/or extended to explore texts in both old and new contexts.

The conference days were opened with plenaries by Eszter Szenes, Michele Zappavigna and Alison Moore. Szenes' presentation, 'COVID-19 deaths and ecofascist utopia: How white supremacists co-opted 'green living' and climate activism' set an urgent political tone and underscored both



ASFLA 2022 organising committee

the necessity and applicability of SFL analysis in resisting extremism and misinformation. Zappavigna's presentation, 'Emoji as paralanguage: Modelling emoji text relations and exploring ambient affiliation in social media discourse' illustrated how proliferating digital semiotic modalities multiply meaning-making resources in both playful and more polemic online discourse. Moore's presentation, 'The role of twitter in community renewal after the black summer bushfires' explored the role of social media in fostering solidarity and emotional wellbeing among communities affected by natural disasters. Across these plenaries, the shared focus on online discourse as a site for the creation and negotiation of ideological communities resonated with the conference theme, demonstrating how the internet can foster both prejudice and solidarity.





This theme was also explored over the course of the colloquium on the first day of the conference, ‘The semiotics of peace, compassion and empathy in our changing world’, comprising presentations by Ingrid Wijeyewardene, Awni Etaywe and Elizabeth Thomson. Across the programme, the conference exemplified the breadth of current SFL research, spanning multimodality, corpus methodologies, critical (and positive) discourse analysis, and language typology. The application of this research across fields as varied as ‘Acknowledgements of country’, secondary school sex education, and Disney’s animated feature films further underscored the curiosity and vitality of the SFL community.

Further to a thoughtfully scheduled programme and the quality of individual speakers’ presentations, the conference organisers must be credited with a superbly choreographed event. From the clear and

comprehensive documentation to the expert navigation of mixed-mode presentations (including audience questions!), the experience of conference attendees both in-person and online was comfortable and undistracted by technical complications. Indeed, as the first in-person ASFLA conference since the onset of the pandemic, it was enormously gratifying to reconnect with colleagues and friends in such a pleasant setting. Moreover, the leafy surrounds of the Macquarie University Wallumattagal campus gave the conference



a quasi-bucolic serenity, further contributing to attendees’ enjoyment. Finally, a modest unfurling of the soul at the conference dinner on the Saturday evening allowed for exactly the kind of convivial recreation that makes in-person conferences such precious occasions for establishing and strengthening community bonds.

In sum, the ASFLA community offers enthusiastic gratitude and congratulations to the organising committee for hosting such a successful conference.



In review: Forum on Sound Semiotics and Systemic Phonology

By Lorenzo Logi

From the 30th November to the 2nd December, ACU hosted a free forum on Sound Semiotics and Phonology at its North Sydney campus, on unceded Cammeraygal land. Organised by Thu Ngo and Yaegan Doran, this forum brought together a wide range of leading scholars from across Australia to explore how people use their voice and other sounds to organise meaning in the classroom, in music, in conversation and a wide range of other settings, from a Social Semiotic and Systemic Functional Linguistic perspective.

This forum included a one-day workshop on the 30th of November, teaching the principles and analysis of sound semiotics and phonology taught by Dr Bradley Smith (University of Sydney) and Lilián Ariztimuño (University of Wollongong), which was followed by two days of in-depth talks and discussion from a wide range of scholars, including Prof. Theo van Leeuwen, A/Prof. Susan Hood, Dr Thu Ngo, Dr Betty Noad, Dr Joshua Han, Dr David Caldwell, Dr Lorenzo Logi and Dr Edward McDonald. The forum was hosted in hybrid mode – with attendees and presenters both face to face and online.

Across the days of the forum, the complexity and productivity of sound and phonology as meaning making resources were described across diverse genres, exemplifying both how underexplored and vital these modes are. Moreover, in gathering scholars from around the country to share their work, the symposium revealed just how much examination of these modes is being carried out. The ensuing discussion (impressively coordinated across in-person and online audiences) was then a welcome reminder of the community's interest in this field, and an encouragement to persevere in researching within it.



Conference Organisers Thu Ngo and Yaegan Doran

ASFLA is grateful to both the organisers and ACU for hosting such a stimulating event, and especially appreciates it being free and open to



In review: Nordic SFL and social semiotics conference (NSFL2022)

By Joshua Han

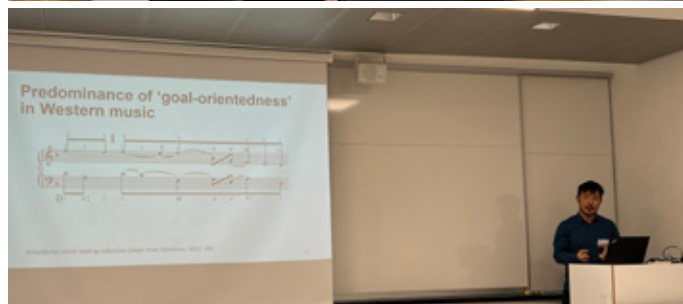
Since 2015, Australia has been officially taking part in the Eurovision Song Contest, despite not being a part of Europe. It is perhaps in the same spirit that Australia was present at the Nordic SFL and Social Semiotics conference, 2022 (NSFL2022), held at Høgskolen i Østfold, Halden, Norway on the 27th and 28th of October. The conference's theme was, "SFL and social semiotics in the face of global and local challenges". Not one, but two Australian researchers presented papers at the conference – Dr Joshua Han (UNSW), and Dr Erika Matruglio (UoW) – and of course, there were also many friends and familiar faces to the ASFLA community, since many of the Nordic SFL and social semiotics scholars present have also collaborated closely with Australian colleagues in the past and some had even made the trip to Australia in recent years to take part in ASFLA conferences.

This year's conference was the first NSFL conference to be held in person since 2019 (the last two were held online due to the pandemic). Researchers working at universities in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Australia at a variety of different stages of their academic careers gathered to present papers that covered a wide range of research areas, including Systemic Functional Grammar, educational semiotics, critical literacy, and multimodality. There were three keynote papers, delivered by Thomas Hestbæk Andersen (presenting research completed with Thrine Victoria Jarnot Meline), Ewa Bergh Nestlog, and Kari Anne Rustand.

On the morning of the first day of the conference, there was also a terminology workshop (which has so far been the 6th Nordic terminology workshop), the purpose of which was to discuss SFL and social semiotics

technical terms used in Danish, Swedish and Norwegian and to update the (trilingual) terminology list.

It is safe to say that the conference was a success. Many participants had expressed their appreciation of gathering together in person for the first time since the pandemic started. Some had also noted that it was great to see continued intellectual exchange and collaboration between members of the Australian and Nordic SFL communities. Just as Australia has continued to take part in Eurovision since 2015, we hope to see this exchange and collaboration continue over the years to come, across many research areas and through many different opportunities.



Community News

ASFLA Incorporation

By Yaegan Doran

ASFLA has undergone some big changes in recent years. A major one this year has been the Incorporation of ASFLA, which has given a firmer administrative footing upon which to build the various projects that are being done to support and extend our community. This Incorporation meant we adopted a new constitution at the Special General Meeting held on the 13th July this year. It also means we officially have a new name! –The Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Incorporated (ASFLA Inc.). Thank you to all those involved in this process of incorporation, but especially thanks to Sue Doran for her advice and support as we navigated the legislative requirements for incorporated associations.

Ruqaiya Hasan Prize 2022 Winner: Dr Nadia Abdulridha Sakran AIEsi

Congratulations to Dr Naria Abdulridha Sakran AIEsi on winning the 2022 Ruqaiya Hasa prize for her PhD thesis: *Dwelling-in-Displacement: Etel Adnan's Multilayered Meaning-making Practice in her Life Writing In the Heart of the Heart of Another Country*.

The prize review committee commented that Dr AIEsi's research showed:

- "...ample evidence that the scholar has 'extended the tradition of SFL across the spectrum of themes and approaches that Hasan focused on over her career'"
- "clear and accurate exposition of Hasan's concepts [symbolic articulation esp cline of dynamism (section 4.3.1 of her dissertation is exemplary..)"
- "careful critique of [Hasan's] concepts based on the results of her analyses, e.g. the presentation of the text-specific creation of dynamism in the context of sustained use of non-finite clauses and suppression of the role of Actor"
- "...the critique would have excited Hasan's interest"

From next year, the Hasan prize will be awarded biennially, in alternation with the Halliday prize. This prize is a wonderful avenue for supporting ECR scholars and to foster engagement with Hasan's work. For more information on the Hasan Prize, visit: <https://asfla.net/hasan-prize>

The Halliday & Hasan Archive

By Yaegan Doran

One of the most exciting developments of this year, and the primary catalyst for us incorporating, is the ongoing development of the Halliday and Hasan Archive. This archive is in the process of cataloguing materials left in the estate of Michael Halliday and Ruqaiya Hasan, so they can eventually be digitised and made available to researchers in the SFL community and to the public. This archive includes an enormous wealth of materials, from hand-written notebooks of Hasan's, to formal lecture materials, to unpublished or early versions of papers, to letters, markbooks, data, photos and materials from Halliday's time in China during the civil war. But it likely includes much more – we won't of course know until it has all been catalogued and digitised, so we are tremendously excited for this to occur. A major thanks to Helen Cagle for being the driving force behind this archiving project, as well as to my colleagues on the

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archive subcommittee – Fran Christie, Geoff Williams and David Butt (with a special thanks to David and Annabelle for storing these materials in their garage all this time!). Thanks also to Lindsay Walker, who has been the consultant archivist through this process, without whom we wouldn't have had a clue where to start. And of course enormous thanks to Neil Halliday for his gracious permission for us to do the archiving in the first place. Further thanks are to ISFLA for donating \$5000 to help get the archiving off the ground, as well as to Professor Emi Emilia and her colleagues at Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (The Indonesian University of Education) in Bandung for their donation of \$1,500. This funding has been pivotal to us being able to start the archiving project. ASFLA has also committed an initial \$5000 to this stage of the archiving project, however more will be needed in order to make the materials fully available to the community. This is an ongoing project, and so we will keep everyone up to date as the archiving progresses.

MAK Halliday Prize established

The M.A.K. Halliday Prize has been set up by the Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association (ASFLA) and will be chosen by an international selection committee comprising representatives from around the world. The first selection committee will be chaired by Rosemary Huisman, former chair of the International Systemic Functional Linguistics Association. We are in the process of finalising the full selection committee in discussion with representatives from regional SFL associations around the world. Once this has been completed, we shall announce its membership.

The Inaugural Prize will be open to books (monographs) published in 2021-2022, and we envisage the first winner to be announced at the 2023 ASFLA conference at the University of Wollongong. We shall announce the nomination process and details in early 2023. In the meantime, please see the attached regulations for all the details about the prize.

For any questions, please email Yaegan.Doran@acu.edu.au

ASFLA Conference 2023 announced

Theme: Celebrating semiosis

Location: University of Wollongong

Date: Wednesday 22nd-Friday 24th November

Preconference Institute: Tuesday 21st November

Convenor: Shooshi Dreyfus

Update from Special Interest Group (SIG) on the Semiotics of Peace, Compassion and Empathy (SPCE),

By Elizabeth Thompson

Where we are at as 2022 comes to a close:

a. The ASFLA Special Interest Group on the semiotics of peace, compassion and empathy (SIG-SPCE) has completed its first year of operation. We kicked off with enthusiasm and energy, establishing our Identity, Vision and Mission as part of our initial meetings. With a clear



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asfla.net



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direction in place, colleagues have:

1. Established a webpage on the ASFLA website: asfla.net/pcesig and a google drive for documentation;
2. Established linguistic descriptions of our key terms: peace, compassion and empathy;
3. Established of a Reading Group to contribute to building our knowledge of the field and support each other as we forge new ground;
4. Organised a SPCE Colloquium at ASFLA 2022 Conference at Macquarie University;
5. Called for papers on SPCE for a Special Interest Journal, for publication in 2024. It's not too late to contribute. Prospective authors can submit a short proposal (500 words max) as a Word document or PDF file to Elizabeth Thomson: ethomson15@gmail.com or, Awni Etaywe: awnietaywe2@gmail.com. The call for papers was sent out to sysfling, sysfunc, asfla.net, facebook and twitter.

b. At our final meeting of the year, we reviewed 2022:

Meeting attendees discussed what activities of the SIG they had found beneficial in 2022. All responses were positive. Members who saw themselves as new to the area and beyond SFL appreciated the SIG: "great to have the reading groups and regular meetings to start to learn about this field" and valued the group as providing academic connection and insight for hands-on work with groups on compassion. It was agreed that the SIG is meeting its role of providing a platform for like-minded people, rekindling interests in working for peace, and spreading the word.

c. We also looked ahead to our activities in 2023:

There is a desire to

- see the SIG moving our work online via ed tech tools and resources;
- look at how digital activists are enacting compassion to take social action, based on universal human values;
- continue to use the reading group for constructive collaboration;
- be a place/space for trying out SFL work, with the reading group acting as a portal to wider interests and (non-linguistics) people;
- peer review, edit and publish the special interest journal by end of 2023, or early 2024.

d. As Coordinator, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the establishment and activities of the SIG-SPCE in 2022. I would like to personally thank Penny Wheeler, Awni Etaywe and Ingrid Wijeyewardene for their contributions and support. It has been a pleasure working and learning together.

e. Our agreed committee meetings dates for 2023 are:

Meeting 1: Friday Feb 17 (1 mth prior to ISFC2023)

Meeting 2: Friday April 28th

Meeting 3: Friday June 23rd

Meeting 4: Friday Oct 20th (1mth prior to ASFLA2023)

Everyone is welcome. So come along and get involved. We'd love to have you join us. See you in 2023.

For more about the SPCE-SIG, check the following link: asfla.net/pcesig



facebook.com/asfla



twitter.com/asflanet

asfla.net



From the Sydney Corpus Lab

Monika Bednarek reports that A range of new blog posts have been published from the Sydney Corpus Lab, some of which might be of interest to the ASFLA community – all available here: <https://sydneycorpuslab.com/blogs>

Grants and Scholarships

ASFLA 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 to kick-start research projects in systemic functional linguistics.

We particularly welcome applications from ECRs and SFL-researchers who are in non-permanent positions.

Email our president Yaegan Doran at yaegan.doran@acu.edu.au with a one-page project outline, also indicating how your research will benefit the ASFLA community, and a separate one-page budget plan with costs fully outlined.

There's no deadline for small grants - they are available any time.

From the ASFLA state representatives

News from Tasmania

By Vinh To

Research Activity:

Projects:

Damon Thomas is third chief investigator for an SFL-related ARC project administrated by the University of Tasmania, together with Carol Murphy (CI1) and Tracey Muir (CI2) in 2022. The project is entitled “Talking Maths: Bridging the gap though talk in Early Years mathematics”. Damon will work with Carol on the analysis of functional language in the student and teacher talk data.

Editing:

Vinh is co-editing the SFLIG 2021 Conference Proceedings with Thomas Amundrud and Sally Humphrey and a special issue for Linguistics and the Human Sciences with Angela Thomas.

PhD Completions:

Tai Huynh: *Exploring Vietnamese customs and traditions in children’s literature* (Supervisors: Vinh To, Angela Thomas, Victoria Carrington). Tai Huynh was among a few PhD students in Education at UTAS who graduated by doing thesis by publication. He graduated in May 2022. Congratulations, Tai and the supervisory team!

Emily Morgan: *An investigation into genre-based content and collaborative pedagogy in a Japanese tertiary teaching context* (Supervisors: Vinh To and Angela Thomas). Emily has received examiners’ reports and is doing revisions.

Ongoing SFL-Oriented PhD Students:

Melissa Riley: *Understanding and improving the teaching of writing in History* (Supervisors: Sharon Fraser, Damon Thomas, and Bianca Coleman)

Rabi Shah: *Exploring Civics and Citizenship Education in Nepal: From Policy to Practice* (Supervisors: Peter Brett and Damon Thomas)

Job news:

In November 2021, we said goodbye to Dr Damon Thomas who got a new position at the University of Queensland. Damon was a much-valued member of the English team at UTAS, and we are thankful for Damon’s collegiality and valuable contributions to the development of the English courses at UTAS to build a cohesive link between the English units in our degrees. Emma Rutherford Vale has been appointed with 0.5 FTE to undertake Damon’s two units, EDU112 in Semester 1 and EPR210 in Semester 2, 2022 onwards. Congratulations, Damon and Emma!

Many thanks to Angela Thomas, Damon Thomas and Emma Rutherford Vale for sharing their SFL research and/or teaching activities for the inclusion in the Tasmania report.

From the ASFLA state representatives

News from Western Australia

By Anne Thwaite

In addition to numerous journal article and book chapter publications, asfla members have participated in a number of conferences:

Akers, C., Boyle, M., Armstrong, E., & Elman, R. (2022). *Using speech function analysis to explore how speakers with aphasia respond during conversation following communication-based group treatment*. Poster presented at the International Aphasia Rehabilitation Conference, Philadelphia, June.

Akers, C., Boyle, M., Armstrong, E., & Elman, R. (2022). *Using Speech Function Analysis to Examine How Speakers with Chronic Aphasia Initiate Conversation Following Communication-Based Group Treatment*. Poster presented at the Clinical Aphasiology Conference, Nth Carolina, May.

O'Halloran, K. L. (2022). *Matter and Meaning in the Digital Age*. Invited plenary paper at the 15th World Congress of Semiotics (IASS/AIS), "Semiotics in the Lifeworld", Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. 30/08/2022-03/09/2022.

O'Halloran, K. L. (2022). *Multimodal Narratives. A World of Narratives: Structuring, Remembering and Re-claiming the World through Communication*. IAMCR Pre-Conference, XJTLU, China. 09/07/2022-10/07/2022.

Congratulations also to Christa Akers for completing her PhD in Oct, 2021 (Armstrong Co-supervision). *An exploratory study of conversational discourse produced by persons with aphasia using Speech Function analysis*. Montclair State University, New Jersey.

The other exciting news is that WA borders are now open so everyone is welcome to visit!

News from South Australia

By David Caldwell

SFL Appointments:

Claire Simpson-Smith: Lecturer in the Technology Education Centre, Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, the University of Adelaide.

HDR study:

Evita Ratcliffe, Adelaide University, has received excellent reports from both examiners of her MPhil thesis. The Post Graduate Coordinator in the Faculty at Adelaide Uni commented: "I have never seen two examiners agreeing at the highest points like this." Evita submitted a longitudinal study of the written development of a single case in subject history and science across years 6 – 12. She analysed thirty two texts in great detail, at both the discourse semantic and lexico-grammatical strata, focusing on ideational and textual meaning. In total she looked closely at more than two hundred written texts. The data came from a student at the Steiner school in South Australia and comprised the student's entire written output across all of her years of schooling.

Visiting scholars:

From the ASFLA state representatives

Bev Derewianka and Pauline Jones, PETAA's 50th Anniversary Networking Event, 17 August 2022. Debra Myhill, Gail Forey, Damon Thomas and Meg Gebhard, Department for Education SA's Online Literacy Summit, August 2022.

SFL-related research activity & invited presentations:

Joel Windle, David Caldwell and Mel Baak won the PETAA Research Grant for 2022-24, for the project titled: *Being Heard: Remixing Critical Literacy for Active Citizenship*.

Dr Peter Mickan and colleagues are involved in projects based on systemic functional linguistics, which include the following: *Textbook analysis: the project focuses on analysis of the content of textbooks for teaching languages including English as an additional language, German and Japanese*. It examines the content of textbooks from social semiotic perspectives. The project is international with participants in Indonesia, Japan and Australia. The project involves scholars in the Adelaide Research Institute, University of Adelaide and Flinders University.

Bilingual Barossa: Peter Mickan is part of a consortium advocating the re-introduction of bilingual German-English programs in South Australia. In 1917 the South Australian Minister of Education closed 52 bilingual German English programs in South Australia. This is a social justice project, which documents the impact of the denial of German bilingual education in German-speaking communities in South Australia.

Literacy-based teaching of languages: languages teaching maintains as a default languages instruction on decontextualized linguistic items and sentence-level exercises. This project continues with lectures and papers applying functional linguistics to the teaching of additional languages from the perspectives of literacy and text-based instruction.

SFL-related courses/masterclasses:

Adelaide Research Institute in the Adelaide Education Group: The Adelaide Research Institute (ARI) conducts research in language education. The research and scholarly activities are informed by systemic functional linguistics. In 2022, ARI is hosting Dr Akiko Nagao as Visiting Research Scholar, whose studies focus on written genre instruction. PhD candidate Kateryna Katsman is based in ARI for research on the documentation and revival of German in the Barossa region of South Australia. Peter Mickan and Irma Kuci are both involved in research and teaching in ARI.

Graduate Diploma TESOL: ARI is involved with the SFL based Graduate Diploma TESOL. Irma Kuci lectures and coordinates the TESOL postgraduate award, which has just been re-accredited. For details of the program contact Irma.Kuci@aibt.edu.au

SFL Professional Development/Workshops:

From Bev White (Department for Education [DfE] SA): DfE SA launched the 2022 online literacy summit in August. The focus is learning to write, writing to learn and brings together 10 speakers to talk about the 3 dimensions of writing – cognitive, sociocultural and linguistic. It includes presentations from SFL experts Debra Myhill, Gail Forey, Damon Thomas and Meg Gebhard (see above).

The Best Advice series on writing comprising Dimensions of writing, creating texts, grammar and punctuation, spelling, handwriting and keyboarding was launched at the same time as the summit. The summit presentations support the best advice papers.

The department will be running a small trial of Lexis Education's 3L course Language Literacy and Learning with secondary literacy leaders undertaking tutor training in term 4 this year.

From the ASFLA state representatives

The Writing and assessment (Brightpath) team are now running Writing plus, which is a course which was co-constructed with Bronwyn Custance (see below) originally for one portfolio, but is now being offered centrally.

Recently developed online DfE SA units of work include genre and functional grammar features strongly in the English units.

From Bronwyn Parkin (PETAA, SA): PETAA has had to cancel all our face to face workshops in SA because schools have been under siege from Covid and can't provide TRTs. Congratulations to David Caldwell, who, along with Joel Windle has won the PETAA Research Grant for 2022-24 (see above). Congratulations to Bronwyn Custance and others who have written the DfE LEAP levels, highly detailed and useful literacy developmental scales aligned to the Australian Curriculum. This year they have been made publicly available at <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/schools-and-educators/curriculum-and-teaching/curriculum-programs/english-additional-language-or-dialect-program> (see below).

From Bronwyn Custance (external consultant): Bev White and I will present on the LEAP Targeted Strategies (see above) to accelerate SAE Proficiency at the ACTA Conference in Brisbane later this month. Everything is now aligning so well across the department resources. Here's what one teacher shared with us: "I am a Highly Accomplished Teacher in a Primary School and a passionate literacy educator. My experience lies in upper primary classrooms, but I have recently begun working as an EALD teacher. This career change has often had me feeling like I am right back at in the graduate stage, wondering where to start and what is best for my students. I began my new EALD role in term 2 this year and have found myself on an amazingly steep learning curve which has been heavily scaffolded by the LEAP: Targeted Strategies document. Referring to the LEAP Targeted strategies has really assisted me to make informed choices about where to start, and where to move to with my diverse EALD learners. It has helped me to narrow down and focus on what is really important. Its clear and sequential content has reinforced my ever-growing understandings of functional grammar, genre, as well as the teaching and learning cycle. I have already found the LEAP strategies to be an invaluable resource in this very short period of time. My work involves building all teachers' understanding of SFL to be able to then Level and plan for teaching, specifically:

A large secondary school where I work with:

- the Learning Area Leaders and whole staff to identify 1 extended written assessment task in every subject, every semester, which they will explicitly teach through the teaching and learning cycle - they have identified/created model texts and we have now commenced the task of writing units including language-focused lessons

- Yr 7 Eng/HASS teachers to build their capacity to explicitly teach grammar (sentence structures) in the context of reading and writing. I've written and they've implemented a number of 'master-class' lessons this term and I will work with a group to support them write lessons for Term 4.

- Another primary school to build capacity to assess students' use of sentence structure, processes and circumstances using LEAP and plan for explicit and targeted teaching using LEAP targeted strategies.

- Another primary school to develop a genre map, clearly connecting genres to curriculum area achievement standards

- An independent secondary school to build English and Language teachers' capacity to explicitly teach grammar (sentence structures) in the context of reading and writing.

From the ASFLA state representatives

Presented workshops for:

ALEA: 2 spotlight workshops (live on-line) on teaching information reports (structure and language features: processes, circumstances and noun groups) to support students to achieve Australian Curriculum LA standards. We have 54 registrants, from across SA, NSW, Vic, Tas and WA.

SASTA: Tony Hole presented our course Exploring how texts work in Science to a group of 30 primary and secondary teachers from across the 3 sectors

PETAA: our workshop Exploring how texts work in HASS was cancelled due to Covid but I did present it to a group of Curriculum Officers and EALD Hub coaches.

*Bronwyn Custance and Tony Hole have had a proposal accepted by PETAA to write a book, to be published in 2024, working title: *Teaching the texts and language of HASS*.

News from Victoria

By Sonja Molnar

HDRs commencements:

Marzieh Mahmoudi commenced PhD in Media and Communications at the University of Melbourne. *PhD thesis is titled The Use of Memes in the Dissemination of Anti-Islam Rhetoric by the Australian Alt-Right*, in which SFL and CDA are applied to explore how online memes normalize, perpetuate and spread racist anti-Islamic rhetoric. Main supervisor is Prof. Mark Davis.

Didem Aydin commenced MPhil with Len Unsworth and Thu Ngo at ACU, based in Melbourne, focusing on multimodal public health materials and advertisements.

News from the Northern Territory

By Nicola Rolls

Current SFL practitioners at CDU include: Sarah Dowden-Parker, Betty Noad, Nicola Rolls and Raelke Grimmer.

Report for 2022:

The NT SFL community continue to be distracted by yet more university restructures along with the general pressures of academic life. There have been some benefits from the restructures particularly regarding the opportunity to bring together linguistic practitioners across the university where we have colleagues working in a range of linguistic fields including semantics, socio linguistics, pragmatics, for example.

Course Development:

Applied Linguistics - Raelke Grimmer (now Dr 😊) has successfully re-established an applied linguistics specialisation in our Graduate Certificate and Master of Education. Through our cross disciplinary collaborations, we have had opportunities to enhance SFL EAP practice for specific cultural contexts, for example two HEPPP funded projects 2021-2022:

Rolls, N., Yore, D., Boyle, A., *Supporting successful regional and remote pathways in HE for Indigenous students in the Northern Territory: an academic literacy and culture program*.

Dank, D., Rolls, N., Woodroffe., T. *First Nations Uni Intro Program – adopting a dual academy*

From the ASFLA state representatives

approach SFL-related research activity.

Research towards publication:

The following SFL related research activities collaborating with external researchers (Dardjito and Wignell respectively) will be completed with publications at the end of 2022:

'Challenges in reading English academic texts for Indonesian university students'. Hanandyo Dardjito, Nicola Rolls, Ari Setiawan, Didik Rinan Sumekto.

'Towards best practice in multimodal academic literacy support videos: A discourse analysis' Grimmer, R., Pollard, A., Gromik, N., & Wignell, P.

Conference conveners 2025:

Our linguistics special interest group have won the EOI to convene the 2025 Applied Linguistics Association of Australia (ALAA) conference in Darwin at CDU. We hope to attract ASFLA members to our beautiful part of the world for this conference especially with our conference theme: 'Language and the interface of mono-/multi-/translingual mindsets'

News from New South Wales

By Thu Ngo

PhD Completions – Congratulations to graduates and supervisors!

UNSW:

Joshua Han (Supervisor: Louise Ravelli, Theo van Leeuwen) *A social-semiotic account of movement-music correspondences*. Completed June, 2022.

Xiaoqin Wu (Supervisor: Louise Ravelli) *Space and Practice: A multi-faceted understanding of the designs and uses of 'Active Learning Classrooms'*. Dean's Award for Outstanding PhD thesis.

UOW:

Nadia Al Esi (Supervisors Alison Moore, Anne Collet) *Dwelling-in-Displacement: Etel Adnan's Multilayered Meaning-Making Practice in her Life Writing In the Heart of the Heart of Another Country*. Completed January, 2022.

Najmeh Kheradparvar (Supervisors Shoshana Dreyfus, Alison Moore) *Making the hidden visible: a linguistic analysis of the practice of peer review*. Completed March 2022.

Thanh Liem Dinh (Supervisors Honglin Chen, Erika Matruglio) *Supporting Vietnamese EFL University Students' Development of argumentative writing through Systemic Functional Linguistics-based Genre Pedagogy*. Completed March, 2022.

Mahmud Hutasuhut: (Supervisors Honglin Chen, Erika Matruglio) *Languaging critical thinking as a process of meaning making in student argumentative writing*. Completed March, 2022.

MQ:

Yan Yan (Supervisors Canzhong Wu, David Butt, Annabelle Lukin) *Registerial Expertise in Translation: Managing Indeterminacy in the Chinese Medical classic Huangdi Neijing*

Carol Webster (Supervisors David Butt, Annabelle Lukin) *The Functions of a Second Order of Symbolic Articulation: Linguistic Stylistics and Dialogue in "The Sunset Limited" of Cormac McCarthy*.

Ibrahim Alasmri (Supervisors Haidee Kotze, Annabelle Lukin) *Cross-linguistic influence of English on (translated) Arabic across register and time: A corpus-based study*

Rodrigo Araújo e Castro (Supervisors Canzhong Wu, David Butt, Annabelle Lukin) *Systemic-functional modeling of text complexity in Brazilian Portuguese*

From the ASFLA state representatives

PhD Commencements and Visiting Scholars (Welcome!):

UNSW:

Alisa Tan: *Developing a toolkit framework for translation to address the theory-practice gap in the classroom: a systemic functional approach*. Supervisor: Mira Kim

ACU:

Dany Lopez, PhD student – *cotutelle with Pontificia Catholic University of Chile in Santiago, investigating Lab reports in tertiary physics*. Supervisors Len Unsworth and Yaegan Doran

Didem Aydin, M.Phil project investigating health promotion materials, Supervisors Len Unsworth and Yaegan Doran

UOW:

Daniel Lees Fryer (Østfold University College, Norway) to be a visiting fellow at UOW for Semester 1 2023

USYD:

Dr Amanda Potts (Cardiff Uni) visiting Sydney Corpus Lab in July 2022 to work on a project on media representation of disability in Australian news.

Prof. Emi Emilia (Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia) is visiting The University of Sydney in the final quarter of 2022.

Staff Movements:

Thu Ngo moved from ACU to UNSW (School of Education)

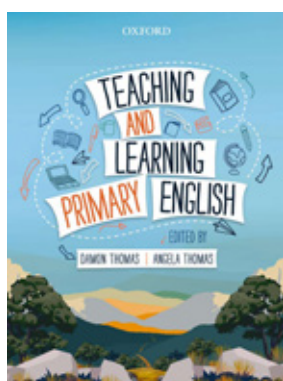
Yaegan Doran moved from USYD to ACU National School of Education

Research Projects and Grants:

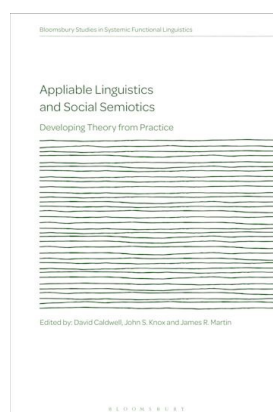
Shooshi Dreyfus UNSW School of Education Rapid-Fire Research Grant Scheme: “What makes it stick? Understanding the factors that enable people living with severe and profound intellectual disability and communication impairments to have functional communication”. \$10,000. CIs: J.Danker, S.Dreyfus & I. Strnadova

Helen Caple (UNSW) and Ping Tian (Sydney Uni) have been working with the State Library of NSW to produce a set of resources for NSW Public Library Staff on building diverse picture book collections (www.sl.nsw.gov.au/public-library-services/diverse-picture-books). They have delivered a number of workshops with NSW Public Library Staff, both in person at the State Library and online. They have published two journal articles on this work and have engaged with the wider public through various media outlets.

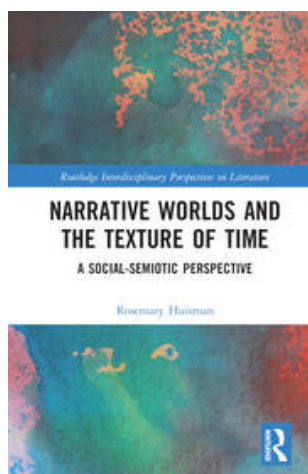
New Publications



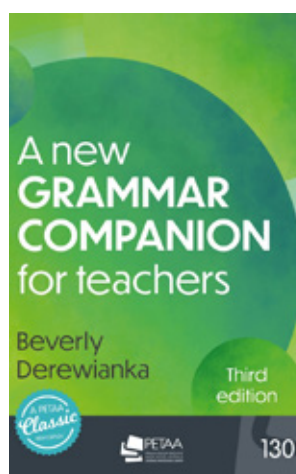
Thomas, D., & Thomas, A. (2022). *Teaching and learning primary English*. Oxford University Press



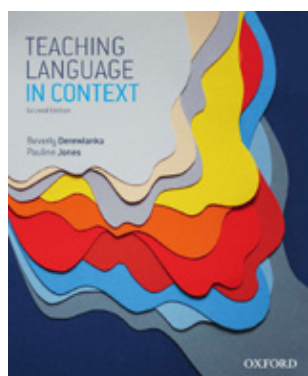
Caldwell, D., Knox, J. S., & Martin, J. R. (Eds.). (2022). *Applicable Linguistics and Social Semiotics: Developing Theory from Practice*. Bloomsbury Publishing.



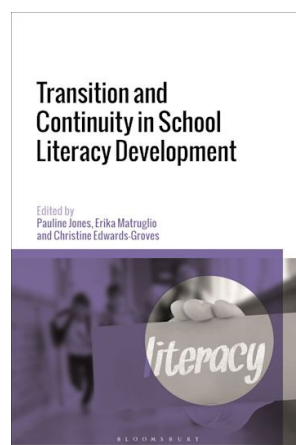
Huisman, R. (2022). *Narrative Worlds and the Texture of Time: A Social-Semiotic Perspective*. Taylor & Francis.



Derewianka, B. (2022) *A New Grammar Companion for Teachers*. PETAA



Derewianka, B. (2022) *Teaching Language in Context*. Oxford University Press.



Jones, P. T., Matruglio, E. & Edwards-Groves, C. (Eds.), (2022). *Transition and Continuity in School Literacy Development*. Bloomsbury.

ASFLA membership

You may be wondering what does ASFLA spend its money on?

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

- Subscription to *Language Context and Text*
- Annual ASFLA conferences
- MAK Halliday Prize
- Hasan Prize
- Halliday and Hasan Archive
- 2022 Forum on Sound Semiotics and Systemic Functional Phonology
- Gunther Kress Symposium 2019
- 2018 Functional description and typology forum
- Appraisal symposia held at USYD (2013, 2015)
- Hasan Symposium at Macquarie University 2016
- Halliday Symposium at Sydney University 2015
- Register and Context Symposia at Macquarie University 2011, 2012, 2013.
- International Educational Semiotics Website
- Numerous international exchanges of scholars
- Student scholarships to ASFLA Conferences
- Over \$20,000 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 then Treasurer Yaegan Doran at the 2021 AGM.

Life membership costs \$250.

How to pay ASFLA membership

1. Go to the ASFLA website www.asfla.net and click on membership.
2. Fill in your details.

ASFLA Membership Form

Please fill out your details

3. Follow the instructions about how to pay by EFT.

Annual membership:

Full – \$40

Student – \$25

School/institutional – \$50

Life membership:

Life – \$250