



## **M.A.K. Halliday Prize – Regulations**

### **Overview**

*The M.A.K. Halliday Prize is an international book prize awarded biennially for the most significant scholarly monograph recently published in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). It is named in memory of M.A.K. Halliday, who was the leading figure in the development of SFL theory. The Prize is open to scholars working in theoretical, descriptive or applied fields. The principal criterion for success will be evidence of excellence and significance in furthering and developing the work of Systemic Functional Linguistics.*

### **Eligibility**

The prize is to be awarded to the author/s of an eligible book that the selection committee considers to best fulfil the selection criteria. The eligibility requirements are as follows:

1. The prize is open to books focusing on Systemic Functional Linguistics, broadly defined;
2. The prize is open to books from any country and written in any language focusing on Systemic Functional Linguistics;
3. The prize is open to books emphasising theoretical, descriptive or applied concerns;
4. The prize is open to authored monographs of new work;
5. Although very encouraging of early-career and junior scholars, the prize is open to scholars of all levels, and the career stage of the author/s will not be taken into account;
6. The prize is open to books with multiple authors. If such a book wins, the prize is shared between the authors;
7. Eligible books must be published in a period determined by the selection committee (“the publication period”), initially conceived as the two-calendar-year period prior to the year of the award.
8. Second or subsequent editions of a scholarly monograph will generally not be eligible unless in the opinion of the selection committee such a book makes a significantly new contribution on par with a first edition book of new work.
9. Where an author has won the prize with a single-authored book in the previous two rounds, a single-authored book by the same author will not be eligible.
10. In the case of any questions of eligibility, the selection committee may interpret the eligibility requirements as they see fit.



## Criteria

For eligible books, the selection of the Prize will be based on the following criteria:

11. Excellence of the work;
12. Its significance for the development of Systemic Functional Linguistics.

## Submission of nominations and the short-list

13. Initial nominations will be received by a maximum two-page nomination plus an abstract of the book.
14. The nomination will include the publication and authorship details of the book, a confirmation of its eligibility including its date of publication, an overview of the book, an argument for its significance in relation to the criteria of the award and any other details the nominator wishes to include within the two-page limit.
15. The nomination may be made by the author/s or by another scholar who wishes to nominate the book.
16. As specified in the selection committee regulations, the working language of the nomination and committee will be English, however the book itself may be in any language as per clause 28.
17. Once the provisional short-list has been determined, the Chair or a delegate is to inform the author/s of their selection. The author/s may withdraw their nomination if they wish, in which case the selection committee will remove the book from the shortlist and determine whether to replace it with another book.

## Selection Committee regulations

18. The selection committee shall be composed of up to seven (7) and no less than five (5) members, one of whom shall function as the Chair.
19. Where possible, the committee members shall include a maximum one member from each of: Africa, Asia (other than China), Australia and Oceania, China, Europe, Latin America, and North America.
20. The committee member from each region shall be nominated by the relevant SFL organisation or organisations, or where necessary appointed by ASFLA.
21. Membership of the selection committee will be for a maximum of two rounds. Once a member has completed their two-round term, they may not sit on the committee for another two-rounds.
22. The selection committee will aim for gender equity with a minimum of 40% women. Appointments by regional associations should take this into consideration.
23. If a member steps down from the committee, the relevant nominating organisation/s may appoint another member for the rest of their term.
24. Membership of the committee across regions shall be staggered, so that there is a rotation of half, or as close-to-half of the members every round.
25. The Chair of the first selection committee will be appointed by ASFLA. Following this, the Chair shall rotate across the regions every round.



26. A committee member may not nominate a book, nor have a book under consideration for the award during the duration of their term. If they wish to nominate a book or have a book of their own nominated, they must step down from their role.
27. Any potential conflicts of interest between committee members and nominated authors (e.g. a family member or current supervisory relationship) must be declared. Where a committee member declares a conflict of interest, the committee will decide whether the member should withdraw and be replaced by another member from their region.
28. If a short-listed book is written in a language other than English and no one on the committee speaks the language in which the book is written, the committee may agree to bring in another non-voting member who can read the book, write a brief report on it and speak to it in comparison to the other short-listed books during the judging period. Where possible, the committee should include members who together speak a breadth of languages to support nominations from multiple languages.

### Other Regulations

29. The award shall be administered by the Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Incorporated.
30. All interpretations of the regulations shall be made by the selection committee.
31. If, in the opinion of the selection committee, there is not sufficient quality in any round, they may choose not to award a prize.
32. The selection committee may recommend any changes to the regulations. Any change in regulations will be determined by the Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Inc. executive, while it is the administering organisation.

### TIMELINE FOR SELECTION

The selection process will begin following the end of the publication period and end at the awarding of the prize, the dates of which will be determined by the selection committee. It is envisaged that the entire selection process from the closure of the publication period to the awarding of the prize will take between six to nine months.

| Steps                                | Selection process  | Notes   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Step 1 – Call for Nominations</b> | The selection committee shall call for nominations for the prize, within one month of the close of the publication period. | This call should be spread widely throughout different countries and regions of the world, using international, regional and national contact lists of many kinds, including SFL lists. |
| <b>Step 2 – Nomination period</b>    | Nominations are open for two months.   | The selection committee may choose to extend the nomination period.   |

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| <b>Step 3 – Shortlisting</b>   | The selection committee will judge the nominations and prepare a provisional shortlist within one-two months of the close of nominations. The shortlist will include no more than four (4) books. | The Chair of the selection committee will inform those selected on the provisional short list of the selection, and ask them to confirm that they wish to be considered.  |
| <b>Step 4 – Judging</b><br>(Four to nine months, depending on award announcement date) | Final shortlist published   | Shortlist to be made public.  |
|  | Copies of books to be obtained for each member of the selection committee.  | Process for obtaining copies of books is left to the selection committee. Ideally hard copies will be made available, perhaps by approaching the publisher and/or the authors, however if not possible, electronic copies are acceptable.   |
|  | Each member of the selection committee will read each short-listed book (though see clause 28).   | Enough time must be left for books to be received and read by all committee members. It is imperative that all committee members understand their responsibility to read each shortlisted book in the short period of time available before they agree to sit on the committee.   |
|  | The committee shall meet to discuss the merits of the books and select a winner (at least a day before the award).  | This can be face to face (for example at the International Systemic Functional Congress or Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Conference) or online. At this meeting, any other matters arising will be discussed, such as the composition of the following period’s selection committee and rotation of chair. |
| <b>Step 5 – Announcement</b>   | The Chair of the committee will announce the award.   | Ideally this will occur during an SFL conference or meeting, such as ISFC or the ASFLA conference.  |

## SELECTION PROCESS

33. At the final selection committee meeting, the committee shall discuss the books, with the winner being determined by consensus of selection committee members.



34. If consensus cannot be reached, the prize will be determined based on a preferential vote.
35. The preferential vote involves:
  - a. All attending members of the selection committee shall indicate their preference for all books on the shortlist from first preference to fourth preference (or however many books there are on the short-list). If one book has a majority of first-preference votes from attendees, it will be declared the winner.
  - b. If no book receives a majority, the book with the lowest first-preference vote shall be excluded. In the case of a tie in the lowest first-preference, of those tied, the book with the lowest number of second preferences will be excluded (this process is repeated until one book is excluded; if there is a tie all the way to the fourth preference, both are excluded).
  - c. The second preferences of the excluded books will be added to the votes of the other books. If at this stage, one book has a majority of votes from attendees, it will be declared the winner.
  - d. If no book has a majority at this stage, steps b. and c. will be repeated for third and subsequent preferences until a majority is obtained. If at the exhaustion of preferences, there is a tie, the prize will be shared.