

## Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics (HAAL)

### The Executive Committee Report for 2017-18

This report covers the period from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

#### Executive Committee Members 2017-18

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| President:                | Christoph Hafner (City University of Hong Kong) |
| Secretary:                | Mable Chan (Hong Kong Polytechnic University)   |
| Assistant Secretary:      | Emily Lui (PolyU Hong Kong Community College)   |
| Treasurer:                | Jim Chan (University of Hong Kong)              |
| Outreach Officer:         | Benjamin Moorhouse (University of Hong Kong)    |
| Immediate Past President: | Carmen Lee (Chinese University of Hong Kong)    |
| Webmaster:                | Angel Ma (Education University of Hong Kong)    |
| Members:                  | Barry Bai (Chinese University of Hong Kong)     |
|                           | Gavin Bui (Hang Seng Management College)        |
|                           | Ricky Lam (Hong Kong Baptist University)        |
|                           | Matthew Sung (City University of Hong Kong)     |

#### 1. Seminars

Seven seminars were held between October 2017 and September 2018. The seminars covered a wide range of areas in applied linguistics as summarized below.

| Date          | Speaker                                  | Title  |
|---------------|--|--|
| 3 Oct 2017    | Diane Pecorari (CityU)                   | Is that really EMI?  |
| 7 Nov 2017    | Angel Lin (HKU)                          | ' <i>Concept+Language Mapping</i> ' (CLM) as a Strategy in Integrating Language Support into Science Teaching: Translating Lemke's Theory of 'Thematic Patterns' into Pedagogical Practice |
| 12 Dec 2017   | Matthew Sung (CityU)                     | Language and identity in higher education: The case of transnational university students in a multilingual university in Hong Kong   |
| 17 Jan 2018   | Winnie Cheng (PolyU)                     | Snapshots of Research: Professional communication in English in Hong Kong  |
| 28 Feb 2018   | Barry Bai (CUHK)                         | Influences of self-efficacy, self-regulation, social support, interest, and task importance on ESL/EFL learners' English learning achievement  |
| 21 March 2018 | Jack Richards (University of Sydney)     | Teacher identity in language teaching  |
| 17 April 2018 | Diane Belcher (Georgia State University) | Life happens: How life circumstances affect cultural identity and commitment to bilingual competence   |

#### 2. Executive Committee Meetings

The Annual General Meeting was held on October 3, 2017. The existing ExCo members were elected and endorsed by members who were present.

### **3. The Annual Social Event**

The Annual Social Event was held on December 2, 2017. We organized a tour to Lau Fau Shan, where we had a seafood lunch. This was followed by a walk to historical sites in the area. The event attracted about a dozen members and their guests.

### **4. Awards**

#### **4.1 Postgraduate Student Grant for Overseas Conference Presentation**

The award (worth HKD3,000), launched in 2005 to promote the academic activities of student members, was shared by two postgraduate students: Mr. Gavin Wu (City University of Hong Kong) and Ms. Joy Qu (Chinese University of Hong Kong). Mr. Wu was also the recipient of this year's Richard Pemberton Award for Postgraduate Student Travel. Each of the awardees received HKD1,500.

The prize presentation was held on June 27, 2017 at the HAAL conference, held at the University of Macau. Both recipients gave 20-minute talks in the form of a 'Spotlight Session' on their research topics.

#### **4.2 Fawzia Braine Memorial Award for the Best Journal Article Published by a Novice Scholar**

The award (worth HKD2,500) was established in 2013 by generous donations from Dr. George Braine and his friends to commemorate the contributions that Ms. Fawzia Braine made to the Association. This award was also established to encourage novice scholars to publish in international refereed journals in applied linguistics.

For the year 2017-18, the Fawzia Braine Memorial Award was presented to Mr. Peter Wingrove, a PhD candidate in the Centre for Applied English Studies, The University of Hong Kong, for his paper entitled 'How suitable are TED talks for academic listening', in *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, 2017.

The prize presentation was held on June 27, 2017 at the HAAL conference, held at the University of Macau. Mr. Wingrove gave a 40-minute talk in the form of a 'Spotlight Session' on his research topic.

### **5. Conference**

This year HAAL (along with MAAL, the Macau Association for Applied Linguistics) co-hosted the Asia TEFL conference, one of the largest TEFL conferences in the region. The conference was held at the University of Macau, over three days from June 27-29, 2018. It was attended by around 1000 people who came from over 30 different countries and regions, not only from throughout the Asia-Pacific region but also from Africa, The Middle East, North America, South America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

The Keynote speaker was Diane Larsen-Freeman (University of Michigan). Plenary speakers at the event were Rodney Jones (University of Reading), Icy Lee (The Chinese University of Hong Kong), Wen Qiufang (Beijing Foreign Studies University), Phil Benson (Macquarie University), Vijay Bhatia (Hellenic American University), Luciana C. de Oliveira (University of Miami), Gustavo González (Argentina), and Anthony John Kunnan (University of Macau). Invited speakers were Guangwei Hu (Polytechnic University of Hong Kong), Maocheng Liang (Beijing Foreign Studies University), Phuong Dzung Pho (Vietnam National University), Noboyuki Hino (Osaka University), Paneeta Nitayaphorn

(Thailand TESOL), Oryang Kwon (Seoul National University). In addition, HAAL and MAAL organized six spotlight sessions including presentations by our own award winners and our MELTA representative.

There were 110 delegates attending the conference from Hong Kong with the majority of those also presenting papers.

## **6. MoU with KOTESOL**

In August 2018, HAAL concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with Korea TESOL. Both associations have agreed to promote one another's activities and, where possible, send members to one another's conferences. The MoU does not commit HAAL to any financial outlay.

## **7. Financial situation**

The finances of the Association remain healthy with a balance of HK\$61,869.54 as at 30 September 2018. (Members who wish to read the full Treasurer's report may contact Dr. Jim Chan at [egjim.chan@gmail.com](mailto:egjim.chan@gmail.com))

## **8. Membership**

We had a total of 145 members, including 11 secondary teachers, 53 post-graduate students, 76 tertiary teachers and 5 'others'.

## **9. Note of thanks**

The President is grateful to all members of the Executive Committee: Barry Bai, Gavin Bui, Jim Chan, Mable Chan, Carmen Lee, Emily Lui, Benjamin Moorhouse, Angel Ma, Ricky Lam, and Matthew Sung for their continuous support and contributions to the Association in the past year.

We continue to be deeply indebted to the Department of English of Hong Kong Polytechnic University for providing venues and technical support for our seminars and meetings.