

Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics (HAAL)

The Executive Committee Report for 2015-16

This report covers the period from 1st October 2015 to 30th September 2016.

Executive Committee Members 2014-2015

President:	Carmen Lee (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
Secretary:	Mable Chan (Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
Assistant Secretary:	Emily Lui (Hong Kong Community College)
Treasurer:	Gavin Bui (Hang Seng Management College)
Outreach Officer:	Jim Chan (University of Hong Kong)
Immediate Past President:	Andy Gao (University of Hong Kong)
Webmaster:	Angel Ma (Education University of Hong Kong)
Members:	Barry Bai (CUHK)
	Christoph Hafner (City University of Hong Kong)
	Ricky Lam (BU)
	Ben Moorhouse (HKU)

1. Seminars and Events

Seven seminars were held between October 2015 and September 2016. The talks covered a wide range of topics in applied linguistics, as listed below:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Title</i>
Oct 6, 2015	Adam Jaworski (HKU)	Pride, profit and prejudice: Metadiscourse and language ideologies in Hong Kong travelogues
Nov 20, 2015	Michelle Gu (CUHK)	Ideal citizenship representation in a Hong Kong promotional video
Dec 8, 2015	Vincent Ooi (NUS)	"Standard English" and the GloWbe corpus
Jan 21, 2016	Ben Moorhouse (HKU)	Homework's position in Hong Kong primary schools' English classrooms
23 rd Feb, 2016	Jackie Jia Lou (CityU)	Resemiotising Linguistic Landscape: Tracing the Discourse Itineraries of Shop Signs
18 th March 2016	Brook Bolander (HKU)	The transnational Ismaili community and shifting values of English across space, scale and time
2 nd April 2015	Hans Ladegaard (PolyU)	The language of suffering: Evidence from domestic migrant worker narratives

2. Executive Committee Meetings

2.1 The Annual General Meeting was held on 6th October, 2015. The existing ExCo members were elected and endorsed by members who were present.

2.2 An executive committee meeting was held on 23rd August, 2016. As Dr. Carmen Lee's two-year term as President will end on 30th September, 2016, at the meeting, members of the committee proposed that Dr. Christoph Hafner (CityU) be put forward as the next HAAL President for confirmation at the AGM on 28th September, 2016.

3. The 6th HAAL Conference

The 6th HAAL conference was successfully held on 11th June, 2015. The conference featured 69 individual presentations and attracted 140 registered attendees.

4. The Annual Social Event

We organized a day trip to the Victoria Peak on 5th Dec 2015. This fun and relaxing day out attracted about 20 members and their guests.

5. Awards

5.1 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: **Ms. Cherry Chan** and **Ms. Bonnie Ho** from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Ms. Chan was also the recipient of this year's Richard Pemberton Award for Postgraduate Student Travel. Each of the awardees received HKD1,500.

5.2. Fawzia Braine Memorial Award for the Best Journal Article Published by a Novice Scholar

The award (worth HKD 2,500) was established in 2013 by generous donations from Dr. George Braine and his friends to commemorate the contributions that Dr 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 2015-16, the Fawzia Braine Memorial Award was presented to Mr. Kevin Jiang, a PhD candidate in the Centre for Applied English Studies at HKU. The title of the winning paper is "Nominal stance construction in L1 and L2 students' writing" in the *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*.

The prize presentation ceremony was held on 11th June, 2016 at the HAAL conference, at which the three award recipients also gave short presentations on their research topics.

6. Financial Situation

The finances of the Association remain healthy with a balance of \$72,099.26 as at 30th September 2016. (Members who wish to read the full Treasurer's report may contact Dr. Gavin Bui at gavin.h.bui@gmail.com)

7. Membership

We had a total of 77 members, 4 of whom were school-based professionals and 25 were postgraduate students. The rest 44 were tertiary teachers.

8. Note of thanks

The President is grateful to all members of the Executive Committee – Gavin Bui, Jim Chan, Mable Chan, Andy Gao, Christoph Hafner, Emily Lui, Angel Ma, Barry Bai, 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.