

## Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics (HAAL)

### The Executive Committee Report for 2016-17

This report covers the period from 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017.

#### Executive Committee Members 2016-17

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:	Gavin Bui (Hang Seng Management College)
Outreach Officer:	Jim Chan (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)
	Andy Gao (University of Hong Kong)
	Ricky Lam (Hong Kong Baptist University)
	Benjamin Moorhouse (University of Hong Kong)
	Matthew Sung (City University of Hong Kong)

#### 1. Seminars

Eight seminars were held between October 2016 and September 2017. The seminars covered a wide range of areas in applied linguistics as summarized below.

Date	Speaker	Title
29 Sep 2016	Ken Hyland (HKU)	Disciplinary specificity and academic writing: Reimagining tertiary EAP
1 Nov 2016	Carolyn Fuchs (CityU)	Interactional affordances and efficacy of MOOCs for language learning at the beginning-level: An exploratory study
6 Dec 2016	Janet Ainsworth (Seattle University)	Bilingual workers in the workplace: Legal regulation versus linguistic reality
19 Jan 2017	Vijay Bhatia (CUHK)	Reconceptualizing applied linguistics
27 Feb 2017	David Li (PolyU)	Monosyllabic salience in Hong Kong Cantonese: Explaining the ubiquity of 'mono' English words in Cantonese-English 'mixed code'
30 March 2017	Mable Chan (PolyU)	Role of classroom intervention: Acquisition of tense by Cantonese ESL learners in Hong Kong
26 April 2017	Ricky Lam (BU)	What research tells us about writing portfolio assessment in practice: Trends, issues and future directions
23 May 2017	Icy Lee (CUHK)	Written corrective feedback in Hong Kong English classrooms: Research insights and practical implications

#### 2. Executive Committee Meetings

The Annual General Meeting was held on September 29, 2016. 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 3, 2016. We organized a walk followed by a barbecue at Shek O. The event attracted about 20 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. Daniel Recktenwald (The Polytechnic University of Hong Kong) and Ms. Cindy Yu (City University of Hong Kong). Mr. Recktenwald was also the recipient of this year's Richard Pemberton Award for Postgraduate Student Travel. Each of the awardees received HKD1,500.

##### **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 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 2016-17, the Fawzia Braine Memorial Award was presented to Mr. Mark Feng Teng, a PhD candidate in the Department of Education Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University, for his paper entitled 'Immediate and delayed effects of embedded metacognitive instruction on Chinese EFL students' English writing and regulation of cognition', in *Thinking Skills and Creativity*, 2016.

The prize presentation ceremony was held on 21 June 2017. The three award recipients gave short presentations on their research topics.

#### **5. Financial situation**

The finances of the Association remain healthy with a balance of 67269.62 as at 30 September 2017. (Members who wish to read the full Treasurer's report may contact Dr. Gavin Bui at [gavin.h.bui@gmail.com](mailto:gavin.h.bui@gmail.com))

#### **6. Membership**

We had a total of 177 members, including 7 secondary teachers, 16 school-based professionals, 48 post-graduate students and 106 tertiary teachers.

#### **7. Note of thanks**

The President is grateful to all members of the Executive Committee: Barry Bai, Gavin Bui, Jim Chan, Mable Chan, Andy Gao, 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 would especially like to acknowledge the contributions of Andy Gao, a former Treasurer and President of the Association, who has moved on to take up a position at the University of New South Wales.

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.