

Network & the ASFLA newsletter

June 2002

Editors:

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1.0 From the editors

Welcome to the combined Network and ASFLA Newsletter. This is the second issue and it contains a great deal about new publications, upcoming and past conferences and other events, and ongoing research activities.

It is with great pleasure that we can include information about new regional systemic functional organizations: see Section 2.0 on page 2. So in addition to the international organization, ISFLA, we now have SYSFLAN (Nigeria), A.F.L.S.F. (France), NASFLA (North America), JASFL (Japan) and ASFLA (Australia). Some of these hold regional conferences on a regular basis, and in addition there are regional conferences held annually in Europe (EISFLW) and biannually in China.

The stream of systemic functional publications is growing. M.A.K. Halliday's 10-volume series of collected papers, edited by Jonathan Webster, will be launched in July. And Robin Fawcett has produced a number of recent publications, with more in the pipeline.

The conference scene is equally active. In addition to the regularly occurring conferences and workshops, conferences exploring new areas for systemic functional work have been held or are planned. These new efforts include the ongoing work on linking systemic functional theory to the study of language and the brain: see Section 5.1 on page 27.

Annabelle Lukin & Christian Matthiessen

2.0 Systemic Functional Associations around the World

2.1 ISFLA

No report

2.2 ASFLA

President: Kristina Love, University of Melbourne

This is my first report as the newly elected ASFLA president, a role I initially accepted with some trepidation, given its relocation from the Sydney epicentre of SFL to the satellite of Melbourne. I thank Geoff Williams, Annabelle Lukin, Maria Couchman and Frances Christie for their patience and generosity in assisting with this relocation. Through electronic communication, I hope to be able to carry out the role as efficiently as Geoff Williams did in his admirable five years in office and I thank the members of the executive for being prepared to work with me largely in distance mode.

As I come to terms with the business and history of the ASFLA, I am constantly struck by the generosity, vitality and philanthropy which have characterised the organization as it has grown. Numerous Australian SFL scholars have contributed their time (and often money) to the development of SFL in countries such as Pakistan, India and South Africa. We have, after the considerable efforts of Annabelle Lukin and support from the membership, managed to bring Ernest Akerejola from Nigeria to take up a scholarship at Macquarie University, thereby enhancing the study of SFL in both countries. The organization hosted one of the most intellectually exciting conferences I have had the great fortune to attend, the 'Language, Brain, Culture Conference' held at Sydney University in December 2001. This conference signalled for many attendees the ASFLA's capacity to engage substantially with disciplinary fields beyond, but related to linguistics, fields such as archaeology, psychiatry, psychology, speech pathology and primatology. Having opened up the trans-disciplinary dialogue, the ASFLA has ensured that the channels of communication will remain open by organising for a continuing conversation on language, brain, culture on a day prior to the 'Exploring Semantics' conference to be held at Macquarie University on 5-7 July, 2002. Even for those who were not able to attend the Language, Brain, Culture conference last year, I would strongly encourage you to try to attend the session run by Professor Michael Arbib on 4 July prior to the Macquarie conference.

The intellectual vigour underpinning the association's conferences is also evident in the extensive local work on SFL that takes place every week in states and systems across Australia. I would like to take this opportunity to remind members that the association may be able to fund some of these local initiatives. Following are the names and emails of state members working on the

ASFL executive who could be approached in the first instance for advice regarding such support.

Western Australia — a.thwaite@cowan.edu.au,

New South Wales — c.Painter@unsw.edu.au,

Queensland — lenore.ferguson@qed.qld.gov.au,

Victoria — k.love@edfac.unimelb.edu.au,

South Australia — Brian.Dare@ceo.adl.catholic.edu.au,

ACT — mmacken@comedu.canberra.edu.au,

NT — peter.wignell@ntu.edu.au

We invite members to contact us if they have any suggestions about how the association can further serve its local membership. Much local SFL work is made possible largely through the unpaid efforts of committed individuals and, only to a limited extent, through members' fees. The association's budget is in a fairly healthy state, though income through membership is declining. We need to encourage more of those friends and colleagues interested in SFL to subscribe to the association in order to maintain its vitality and financial viability. State representatives on the executive are conducting membership drives, and we encourage all members to spread the word about the intellectual and professional benefits of joining the association. Membership is \$30 for the full-time employed or \$20 for students and part-time employed (particularly good value when membership entitles you to a \$20 discount on all ASFLA conferences). Please give out the association's membership fax details (02) 9484 0085 and encourage potential members to visit the ASFLA web site (<http://homepage.mac.com/asfla>) to see the range of benefits of membership. We now also offer Life membership for \$250, which can be paid in instalments if needed.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank John Polias and Carl Nilsson-Polias for their continuing volunteer roles as Web masters for the Association's web site. While John and Carl maintain the site, and John trawls through Sysfunc and Sysfling for items of relevance, the site belongs to the members. I encourage you all to provide content and instructions to John that will ensure the vitality of the web site as a means of communication between its members.

I hope to see you all at the July conference at Macquarie University.

Kristina Love

2.3 The Japanese Association of Systemic Functional Linguistics (JASFL)

Website:

<http://www.aichi-gakuin.ac.jp/~makoto/jasfl.html>

2.3.1 New Association Headquarters

JASFL now has a new Secretary and Treasurer. We extend our appreciation to the outgoing Secretary, Professor Motoko Hori and Treasurer, Professor Makoto Sasaki for their dedication and hard work over the past few years.

Please contact the new headquarters for any future inquiries.

Secretary:

Makoto Sasaki
Aichi Gakuin University, Junior College
1-100 Kusumoto-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8650
Phone 052-751-2563
Email makoto@dpc.aichi-gakuin.ac.jp

Treasurer:

SATO Katsuyuki
5-3-19-404
Obayashi, Takarazuka,
Hyogo 665-0034
Tel/Fax 0797-73-1339 (Home)
Email: satokats@mwu.mukogawa-u.ac.jp

Notice: Makoto Sasaki will be on sabbatical leave from April 1st 2003 to March 31st 2003. During that time there will be a temporary secretary of the association. The details will be announced later on the website.

2.3.2 2002 Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting for 2002 will be replaced by a special lecture by Prof. Peter Fries. The details are as follows.

Date: June 22nd, 2002 . 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm*

Venue: Teachers College, Columbia University Tokyo

(One minute walk from JR Suidobashi Station. Mitsui Seimei Building 4F)

<http://www.tc-japan.edu/> (See the map)

Speaker: Prof. Peter Fries (Central Michigan University)

Title: 'Theme and Related Concepts in English'

*The doors will open from 12:30.

Prof. Fries will also do a seminar for Teachers College students, which is open to JASFL members. See the details.

2.3.3 2002 Autumn Conference

Dates: October 5th (Sat) and 6th (Sun)

Venue: Ryukoku University, Fukakusa Campus

<http://www.ryukoku.ac.jp/>

Plenary Speaker: Prof. Paul Thibault (Lingnan University)

More details will be available later on the JASFL website: <http://www2.ocn.ne.jp/~yamanobo/jasfl.html>

Call for Papers for JASFL2002 Autumn Conference

Presentations will last 30 minutes with 10 minutes for discussion and questions. Please submit abstracts for paper presentations to the following address.

To: Makoto Sasaki

Aichi Gakuin University, Junior College

1-100 Kusumoto-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8650

Phone 052-751-2563

Email makoto@dpc.aichi-gakuin.ac.jp

2.4 Newly formed North American Systemic Functional Linguistics Association (NASFLA)

2.4.1 Organizational Meeting of the North American Systemic Functional Linguistics Association

7:30 p.m., April 8, 2002

Smoke House Room, Sheraton City Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.

Convening: During a convention of the American Association of Applied Linguistics, a group of systemic functional linguists gathered to form a new regional group. It would be the seventh regional group, after Europe, Japan, China, Australia, France, and Nigeria. Nan Fries had e-mailed notices of this intention to a list of more than 200 North Americans who had expressed an

interest in Systemic Functional Linguistics. She instructed them to let her know if they did not want to be considered members of the proposed organization, but none of them did so.

Those present included the following: Bill Acton, Gulbahar Beckett, Carol Chapelle, Susan Conrad, Viviana Cortes, Mary Ann Crawford, Zhihui Fang, Richard Forest, Nan Fries, Peter Fries, Jenny Godfrey, Carolyn Hartnett, Cecilia Hazelrigg, Alan Jones, Emi Kobayashi, Masaki Kobayashi, Xiaoping Liang, Lynn Yu Luo, Yang Luxin, Bernie Mohan, Maiko Takasa, Tom Miller, Jacqueline Queniart, Akiyo Sueyoshi, and Madeleine Youmans.

Peter and Nan Fries and Bernie Mohan posted an agenda and led discussion.

1. Possible Projects

a. Individual bibliographies from members' classes to be posted on a NASFLA web site. (Eventually these might be annotated.)

b. SFL course for distance learning

c. Colloquia at various conferences

2. Constitution

After a draft was posted, discussed, and revised, Peter Fries moved to adopt it, and Bernie Mohan seconded the motion. It received unanimous approval and is appended to these minutes.

3. Election of officers

Volunteers were requested and names of nominees were posted:

President: Bernie Mohan (Past Chair, ISFC)

Vice President: Nan Fries (Membership Secretary, ISFC)

Secretary: Carolyn Hartnett (Acting Recording Secretary, ISFC)

Web Site Coordinator: Michael Cummings (North American Representative, ISFC) <mcummings@glendon.yourku.ca>

Newsletter Editor: (None named for now, but a volunteer was requested.)

Other Volunteers: As needed and available

Peter Fries moved the election of the list, Madeline Youmans seconded the motion, and approval was unanimous.

4. Other Business

Where to meet: Possibilities include during meetings of the ISFLA, American Association of Applied Linguistics, National Council of Teachers of English, and Conference on College Composition and Communication. Also suggested were the World Englishes Conference in October at the University of Illinois and one three-day weekend during the Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, which will be held at Michigan State University in 2003.

Further suggestions included these:

Meetings of the board can take place via e-mail.

Minutes should be posted on e-mail list and on web site.

Terms of officers will be staggered after we get under way.

Everyone should be thinking of projects the organization can undertake.

Bibliographies and news of publications should be sent to Michael Cummings immediately for posting on a web site, <mcummings@glen-don.yourku.ca>

Further discussion:

ISFLA will be meeting in Liverpool in July and in Brazil in 2006. The new Continuum book catalog has been published; it includes a new ten-volume edition of works by Michael Halliday. Reservations had been made for members to have dinner together in the hotel immediately after the close of this meeting.

Participants introduced themselves, and Bernie Mohan adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Hartnett, Secretary, NASFLA

2.4.2 Constitution

Name of organization:

North American Systemic Functional Linguistics Association

Goals:

To bring together Systemic Functional Linguists in North America through activities such as organizing meetings, maintaining a web site, circulating a newsletter, and socializing;

To encourage the development of Systemic Functional Linguistics;

To strengthen contacts with linguists in other parts of the world, such as South America

Officers:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Web Site Coordinator, and Newsletter Chair

Terms of office:

Officers will be elected for two years.

Meetings of the organization:

Once a year, the times and locations to be decided by the officers.

Members will be notified by e-mail.

Membership:

Membership will consist of people who have expressed an interest in Systemic Functional Linguistics in North America.

Carolyn Hartnett

Professor Emeritus, College of the Mainland

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Texas City, Texas 77590 U.S.A.

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2.5 Report from the Systemic Functional Linguistics Association of Nigeria (SYSFLAN)

The email contact for SYSFLAN is Sysflan@abu.edu.ng

For upcoming workshop, see Section 4.7 on page 23.

2.6 Newly formed French SFL Association (A.F.L.S.F.)

Association Française de La Linguistique Systémique Fonctionnelle

President: David Banks

2.6.1 Website

<http://www.univ-brest.fr/erla/aflsf/>

Bienvenue sur le site de l'Association Française de la Linguistique Systémique Fonctionnelle (AFLSF). L'AFLSF est une association de type loi 1901 (législation française) qui a pour but de promouvoir les études linguistiques dans le cadre théorique de la linguistique systémique fonctionnelle.

2.6.2 Projets/Ouvrages

Notre jeune association propose des **projets** dans divers domaines:

- création d'un lexique français des termes utilisés en LSF (dans un but d'harmonisation) [suite...]
- recensement des mémoires et thèses d'orientation systémique, rédigés en français et/ou traitant de la langue française
- création d'une base de données de linguistes systémistes susceptibles d'intervenir en langue française (ex. conférenciers, professeurs invités)

Nous recherchons des collaborateurs dans ces domaines.

Ouvrages

- 1) Notre président, David Banks, rédige actuellement une Introduction à la linguistique systémique fonctionnelle
- 2) Alice Caffarel est l'auteur d'une grammaire systémique fonctionnelle du français en deux volumes (ouvrage rédigé en français) :

Caffarel, A. [Forthcoming]. *A systemic functional grammar of French: from grammar to discourse, vol.1&2*. Continuum: London.

3.0 News about systemic functional activities around the world

3.1 Austria

Cassily Charles writes: We've started an Austrian SFL discussion group which meets about every month or so, alternately Salzburg & Vienna. Next one's on Saturday to coincide with Theo van Leeuwen's visit to Vienna. Contact person & main mover: Peter Muntigl at the University of Vienna (peter.muntigl@univie.ac.at)

3.2 Australia

3.2.1 The systemic functional seminar series at the University of Sydney

March 8th — Jim Martin: *Waves of texture: organising composition*

March 15th — Kathryn Tuckwell: *Explaining Complexity: Some Linguistic Difficulties*

March 22nd — Maria Couchman: *Transposing Culture*

April 19th — Jane Torr: *An exploration of the spontaneous intertextual meanings of 4-year-old children during picture book sharing*

May 3rd — William Armour: *Becoming a Japanese language learner, user, and teacher: revelations from life history research*

May 10th — Bev Derewianka & Susan Feez: *Grammar on the Web*

May 17th — Rick Idema: *Modalities of Organization: A Discourse Perspective*

May 24th — Geoff Williams: *Mediating Cultural Change in Ontogenesis*

May 31st — NO MEETING. UTS Language in Ed. Seminar (Mike Hart)

June 7th — Jenny Donovan: *The Purpose and Processes of Statewide Literacy Assessment*

June 14th — Bernadette Rigadeau: *Complex Failure, Complex Split and Complex Fusion: towards an analysis of Dysfunctional Grammar.*

3.2.2 Rosemary Huisman: Consciousness-raising

Consciousness-raising:

On May 9th, I gave a department seminar to staff and postgraduates of the ASNC (Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic) Department in the English Faculty of the University of Cambridge (U.K.), in which I discussed the inadequacies of existing literary theories of narrative (including so-called structuralist ‘narratology’), and described a more productive model of narrative derived from the systemic account of process meanings. Given its audience, the paper made particular use of examples from the Old English poem, *Beowulf*. The audience comments and questions were very positive – especially from postgraduates, many of whom clearly have the need for coherent and functional models for textual study for different purposes (in ASNC, more usually overtly historical and social than literary).

Rosemary Huisman

3.2.3 Maria Couchman: the Language Technology Research Group

In February this year, I enrolled in a PhD at Macquarie University and took up a position as a Research Linguist in the Language Technology Research Group at the University of Sydney. This project is funded by the Capital Markets Co-operative Research Centre (CMCRC) and ultimately promises to attract more than \$5 million in funding.

While I’m supervised primarily by Professor Christian Matthiessen from Linguistics at Macquarie University (with input from Jane Simpson and Professor Jim Martin at Sydney), the project itself is led by Professor Jon Patrick of Information Technologies at the University of Sydney. Having recently published a grammar of Basque, it is Professor Patrick’s keen interest in linguistics that led to him making the unusual move of including a linguist as a foundational team member in the development of a language based computational system.

In addition to myself, the team also includes Computational Linguists and Software Engineers and, between us all, we’re building a semantically based infor-

mation retrieval system that targets a specific type of financial document on the World Wide Web.

Using the tools of Systemic Functional Linguistics, my research will not only feed directly into my PhD, but, by characterizing the texts to enable the identification of computationally retrievable features, it will also inform the development of techniques for automatic discourse analysis. The research is designed to be developed in stages progressing from low-level analysis that is currently within reach as far as computational modelling is concerned to high-level analysis that represents a real challenge to computational modelling.

As both a cross-disciplinary project between Linguistics and Information Technologies as well as a collaborative project between Macquarie University and the University of Sydney, both my own research and that of my colleagues is already reaping the benefits of multiple dialogues. For me, it is this opportunity for the interweaving of academic dialogues that is perhaps the most significant outcome of the project.

3.3 Australia: David Butt °Centre for Language in Social Life (CLSL)

The Centre for Language in Social Life (Department of Linguistics, Macquarie University, Sydney) Research Report.

From Dr David Butt, Director

The Centre for Language in Social Life (CLSL) encompasses many of the strands of research in systemic functional linguistics, and, therefore, a wide range of cognate research in the various strands of the Linguistics Department. The aim of the Centre is to combine the modelling of discourse with the application of models to specific issues in medicine, law, education, translation, stylistics, and cognitive science. The emphasis has been on the cartography of systems at the levels of context, semantics and lexicogrammar – in particular, how such mapping can establish the structure of meaning for a register.

3.3.1 The staff involved in the Centre in 2001 were

Dr David G. Butt	Director
Professor Christian M.I.M. Matthiessen	Deputy Director
Rhondda Fahey	Deputy Director
Alison Moore	Research Co-ordinator for the Centre
Lynne Mortensen	Lecturer, Linguistics
Sue Spinks	Lecturer, Linguistics
Dr Wu Canzhong	Research Officer, Linguistics
Dr Beth Armstrong	Senior Lecturer, Linguistics

3.3.2 Existing research projects

(i) **Enhancing Interaction in Group Homes for Adults with Disabilities.** This project involves a collaboration between the NSW Department of Community Services (DoCS), and Macquarie University.

(ii) **Genetic counselling for women with a familial risk of breast cancer.** This project is a collaboration between our Centre, the Medical Psychology Unit University of Sydney, and R.P.A. Hospital. In 2001 we received funding as Associate Investigators on this project. We contributed a linguistic analysis of current strategies in genetic counselling with a view to improved communication about risk. In the second half of 2001, we participated in developing a communication tool which included graphic and verbal strategies for communicating risk.

(iii) **The ethical presentation of clinical trials.** Work on this project during 2001 included discussions and early drafts of a joint paper. The work provided a model for our discussion of **Risk** at the recent conference in Gent, Belgium. One researcher, from a centre in Cardiff, said that our work was far in advance of the field for explicitness and capturing variation.

(iv) **HIV treatment decision making.** This National Health and Medical Research Council funded research continued in 2001 through the work of Alison Moore, on the analysis of consultations in the area of HIV and treatment decisions, including a journal article and several conference presentations.

(v) **Language-based Intelligent Systems,** a collaborative project with the Riken Institute of Physical and Chemical Research in Japan. In 2001 the collaborative work has been consolidated through a number of exchanges, and the development of tools in computation and the parameters of context. One computational researcher stayed with us for an extended period, and other visits have mainly focussed on network representations of field/tenor/mode, and the actual dimensions of networks (eg. instantiation vs delicacy).

The discussions taking place at these visits have been supported by a number of working papers developed at the CLSL, centrally from the meaning modelling of Professor Christian Matthiessen, the thesis by Dr. Wu Canzhong, a monograph by Butt and Matthiessen, “The Meaning Potential of Language: mapping meaning systematically” (440 page mimeo), and “Modelling behaviour semantically” (50pp).

(vi) **Modelling a ‘Meaner’**, an ongoing Australian Research Council. This project, in conjunction with the UTS/ Macquarie Corpus of spoken Australian English and related projects, continues our commitment to developing socio-semiotically based natural language processing, under A/Prof. Matthiessen. Students at Macquarie now have access to a 350,000 word corpus of spoken Australian discourse (now the basis for a doctoral thesis by Kathryn Tuckwell). Ongoing work in this project further contributes to the development of a new research paradigm where information technology is brought in to expand the text-based research potential. This is the thrust of our projects – to extend the

base of data (for researchers in general), to extend the tools, and to extend the theory.

(vi) **UTS/Macquarie/NSW AMES Project on Intonation and Meaning.** This industry linkage project originally involved a collaboration with a speech technology company, Syrinx. After the collapse of Syrinx, a new collaboration with NSW AMES was initiated. NSW AMES is an organisation within the NSW government which delivers English language literacy and numeracy programmes, and develops language curricula and learning materials. The organization has had a reputation for making use of existing systemically oriented research, as well as conducting its own, in order to ensure its learning materials reflect a knowledge of language use from actual and relevant social contexts.

(vii) New projects secured for 2002:

Maquarie University '**Safety Net Grant**' for research on Interpersonal Meaning and Intonation (David Butt & Christian Matthiessen)

Internal Macquarie University Research Grant for work on the semantic stratum semantics (David Butt & Annabelle Lukin). This project involves the collection of data from one speaker over a number of contexts, and aims to produce analysis from multiple existing proposals in systemic theory for working on semantics.

3.3.3 Prospective research funding

Five Australian Research Council funding proposals were submitted in February 2002:

(i) Systemic Safety: Modelling meaning in the context of surgery — This collaborative project between the Centre (David Butt and Alison Moore) and Professor John Cartmill of Nepean Hospital/University of Sydney aims to improve our understanding of interacting systems of communication, as exemplified by the context of surgery. Increasingly, adverse events in operative care are considered systemic rather than a product of system breakdown. Existing systems, and how they lead to adverse events, need to be made more explicit. The project aims to describe surgical practice as a system of meaning-bearing systems, integrated from context to content to expression, and incorporating language and other symbolic systems. We would display the ensemble effects of choices in these systems and how they predispose towards or inhibit adverse outcomes through systemic networks.

(ii) Modelling language as a complex adaptive system: a corpus based investigation of spoken discourse — Work in systems theory is now sufficiently advanced to permit the study of language as a complex, adaptive system. Using systemic, functional linguistics, this project, submitted by Annabelle Lukin and Wu Canzhong, will examine the nature of language as a system through the analysis of an existing corpus of spoken discourse (using data from the UTS/Macquarie Spoken Corpus Project). Through grounded empirical

investigations of actual linguistic behaviour unfolding in real time, the project seeks to extend existing descriptions of language as a complex, adaptive system.

(iii) Mapping out the interpersonal systems of spoken English and their interactions – The aim of this research project, submitted by Christian Matthiessen and David Butt, is to focus on those aspects of (Australian) English that are central to actual spoken dialogue. These interpersonal aspects of language need to be described in their own right and tracked as they interact across the levels of meaning, wording and sounding, with a consistent focus on intonation. These systems will be mapped in a computational model totally new for its degree of integration.

(v) Modelling an interactive meaner in a semiotic role network – This project, submitted by Christian Matthiessen will develop a theoretical and computational model of an interactive meaner in a semiotic role network, giving this meaner the ability of taking part in dialogic exchanges of meaning. This will build on a current system, adding to it an analysis and parsing capability and the interpersonal resources needed for dialogic interaction. The research will be based on a general theoretical model of language as a complex system of a particular kind – a semiotic system. This model will be used to develop a novel approach to analysis and interaction.

(vi) Modelling the lexicogrammar of Japanese as a complex system – The central aim of this project, submitted by Dr. Kazuhiro Teruya, is to model and describe the lexicogrammar (grammar and lexis) of Japanese as a complex system, making it possible to identify and interpret key properties of this system both as potential and as text instances. This model is significant in that it will be the first to treat Japanese as a complex system, thus creating a new research paradigm. This model will also be innovative in its interpretation of instantial patterns – i.e. patterns observed in the behaviour of the system by means of corpus-linguistic techniques – as properties of the underlying systemic potential.

3.3.4 PhDs submitted or about to submit

Paula McAndrew, under the supervision of David Butt (awarded).

Virginia Stuart-Smith, under the supervision of Christian Matthiessen (awarded). Her thesis is titled “Rhetorical Structure Theory: a corpus based analysis from a systemic functional perspective”. See Section 6.1 on page 31.

John McAndrew, under the supervision of David Hall (submitted).

Midori Fukuhara, under the supervision of David Butt. Her thesis is a five register analysis of resources in Japanese for textual continuity (submitted)

Lynne Mortensen, under the supervision of David Butt. Her thesis is a semantic and grammatical overview of the writing of 10 aphasics, 10 traumatically brain injured, and 20 control subjects with the focus on the functional profile of the

writers (options taken up, and, crucially, those not taken up in maintaining their social memberships as writers) (submitting end of June).

3.3.5 Scholarships awarded

The Centre has awarded our first international doctoral scholarship to Ernest Akerejola, a scholar and teacher from Amadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. We have awarded our first local doctoral scholarship under the RAACE scheme to Sunny Pang, a scholar with outstanding achievement in our post-graduate programme at Macquarie.

3.3.6 Ongoing collaboration with East Timor

Our Centre continues to support the development of research and language policy in East Timor, in line with the new country's constitutional position with respect to languages, namely: Tetum as the national language; Portuguese as the official language; and with Indonesian and English supplying supplementary "working" roles only. Developments here are a long term collaboration with the University of East Timor and the University of Western Sydney's Centre for East Timorese Studies, under the Directorship of Dr Geoffrey Hull. This is a long term undertaking, growing out of David Butt's work with Dr Benjamim Corte-Real at Macquarie (1991-1996), and with the research of Dr Geoffrey Hull. Our next visit to the National Institute of Linguistics in Dili will be from July 9th to 15th, 2002.

Roaming CLSL doctoral students

A number of CLSL doctoral students have been invited to contribute to projects elsewhere, including:

- Alison Moore, currently working as part-time researcher at the Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine, at Sydney University, directed by Professor Miles Little
- Maria Couchman, as a linguist on a project directed by Professor Jon Patrick, Department of Computing Studies, University of Sydney
- Kathryn Tuckwell, Annabelle Lukin, Ben Fenton-Smith and Naomi Carter, teaching about grammar and image with Dr Geoff Williams, Department of English, University of Sydney
- Phil Hall and Astika Kappagoda, at Appen, a firm specialising in speech/telecommunications research and development

3.3.7 International and national dissemination of research

Besides contacts already mentioned above, Centre members and associated have widened our network of academic influence and industry links through visits overseas and collaborations between departments at Macquarie.

- Rhondda Fahey once again was invited to teach at Summer School workshops in Systemic Functional Linguistics, this year in Ottawa. She also presented on 2 topics in her special research area of language and religion – “A matter of identification: how the identity of Jesus is constructed by the writers of the gospels.” (in Ottawa); and “Translating the Eucharist” at Sydney Uni. translation conference.
- Sue Spinks has collaborated as an Associate Manager in the development of the Macquarie Online Writing Gateway. In this she works with the Departments of Psychology and Education. Again with Psychology, Sue is developing a study of attitudes of Psychology students to the writing process, the ultimate aim of which is to produce a study, “An anatomy of a High Distinction paper in first year Psychology”.
- Emeritus Professor Ruqaiya Hasan taught courses and workshops in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Ottawa.
- Research students affiliated with the Centre have participated actively in the dissemination of research on specific interactional contexts, and on the development of tools for modelling them, particularly through presentations at the International Systemic Functional Congress (Ottawa), Language and the Professions, (City University of Hong Kong), the Discourse on Discourse conference, (University of Technology, Sydney) and the Language, Brain, Culture conference (Sydney University). (See listed presentations below).
- Industry affiliations include links by Phil Hall with an Industry partner, Appen. Hall has visited Japan, Portugal and The Netherlands working towards the Speecon project, a Consortium of the world’s major companies in electronics, aiming to embed speech devices in ordinary appliances (see www.speecon.com).
- Phil Hall won a Linguistics Society of America scholarship to attend the LSA Summer School at Santa Barbara, June to August 2001.
- Annabelle Lukin initiated contact with the Science Unit at ABC Radio National. Robyn Williams, of the Science Show agreed to open one of the Centre’s sponsored conferences, the Language, Brain, Culture conference. A journalist from the Science Unit attended a number of sessions at the conference, and has featured some work presented at this conference on a new programme, *All in the Mind*. Lukin wrote and presented a talk on some introductory ideas in linguistics, including reference to the work of our Centre, broadcast on Ockham’s Razor, August 2001 (see <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/science/ockham/stories/s352015.htm>)
- Christian Matthiessen prepared for two workshops, ultimately presented to Indian and US scholars in January 2002 in Hyderabad and Lucknow. With a co-sponsor, we brought out Prof. Prakasam, a dean from Osmania Uni. and India’s Central Institute for the teaching of English.

3.4 Singapore

Many thanks to Kay O’Halloran for the following information.

3.4.1 (1) Development of computational tools for corpus-based research Software for Systemic Functional Analysis of Text

O'Halloran, K.L. and Judd, K (2001). *Systemics*. Singapore, Singapore University Press.

See Section 7.13 on page 44 for an account of this new software tool.

3.4.2 (2) Publications relating to corpus-based research

(a) O'Halloran, K. L. (1996). *The Discourses of Secondary School Mathematics*. PhD Thesis. Murdoch University, Western Australia.

Analysis of discourse in three high schools in Perth, Western Australia across the differing dimensions of gender and social class (two elite private single sex schools and one low socio-economic government school)

Related Papers

O'Halloran, K. L. (1999). "Towards a Systemic Functional Analysis of Multisemiotic Mathematics Texts." *Semiotica* 124-1/2: 1-29.

O'Halloran, K. L. (2000). "Classroom Discourse in Mathematics: A Multisemiotic Analysis." *Linguistics and Education* 10 (3 Special Edition: Language and Other Semiotic Systems in Education): 359-388.

O'Halloran, K. L. (forthcoming). *Implications of Multisemiotic Constructions for Mathematics Education*. *Semiotic Perspectives on Mathematics Education*. M. Anderson, V. Cifarelli, A. Saenz-Ludlow and A. Vile.

O'Halloran, K. L. (forthcoming). "A Systemic Functional Analysis of Discourses in Secondary School Mathematics Classrooms According to Social Class and Gender." *Linguistics and Education*.

(b) Multimodality: A Collection of Research Thesis and Dissertations

Alias, S. (2001). *The Lion City as a Text: A Semiotic Study of Singapore's Orchard Road and Marriott Hotel*. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Ang, M. L. I. (2000). *A Systemic Functional Approach to the Analysis of a Multisemiotic Text from the Straits Times*. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Cheong, Y. Y. (1999). *Construing Meaning in Multi-Semiotic Texts - A Systemic Functional Approach*. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Jye, A. (1999). *A Social Semiotic Analysis of SDU Advertisements*. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Kok, K. C. A. (2000). Hypertext: A Systemic Functional Approach to Multisemiotic Mediation. Honours Thesis. National University of Singapore.

Kok, K. C. A. (forthcoming). Hypertext: Virtual Remaking of Multisemiotic Mediation. MA Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Leong-Chan, N. N. (2001). Hypertext Language and Semiotics: A Systemic Functional Linguistic Analysis of Web Sites. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Ling, L. S. (2001). Semiotic Construction of Food Labels. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Pang K. M. A. (forthcoming). Disciplining History - Negotiating Exhibitionary Knowledge. MA Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Pang, K. M. A. (2000). Designing Children in Changing World, Changing Hopes: A Multisemiotic Analysis of a Museum Exhibition, National University of Singapore.

Tan Gek Choo, A. (2001). Crisis Rhetoric in Singapore: A Systemic Functional Analysis of the Total Defence Campaign. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

Teo, C. Y. (2001). Planescape Torment: A Multisemiotic Analysis of a Computer Game. Honours Thesis. National University of Singapore.

Wee, C. K. A. (1999). A Systemic Approach to Multisemiotic Texts. Honours Thesis. National University of Singapore.

Wooi-H'sen, O. (2001). Multisemiotic Systemic Analysis of Oppositional Discourse in Singapore. MA (Coursework) Dissertation. National University of Singapore.

4.0 Conferences, Workshops and other events

4.1 ISFC 29: Systemic Linguistics and the Corpus

Dates: 15th - 19th July 2002 in Liverpool.

The plenary speakers will be:

Suzanne Eggins (University of New South Wales)

Michael Hoey (University of Liverpool)

Susan Hunston (University of Birmingham)

Christian Matthiessen (Macquarie University)

Mike Stubbs (University of Trier)

Gordon Tucker (University of Cardiff)

For further information, please go to:

http://www.liv.ac.uk/english/confer/confer/ISFC_2002.html

4.2 14th Euro-International Systemic Functional Linguistics Workshop - 14» Workshop Euro-Internacional de Linguística Sistémico-funcional

Issues in Language Description: Rethinking Systemic Functional Theory?

Aspectos da Descrição das Línguas: Repensar a Teoria Sistémico-funcional?

Department of English Studies, University of Lisbon, Portugal

July 24-27 2002

Departamento de Estudos Anglísticos, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

24-27 de Julho de 2002

Invited Speakers / Oradores Convidados

Ruqaiya Hasan (Macquarie University)

Christian Matthiessen (Macquarie University)

Susanna Shore (University of Helsinki)

Anne McCabe (Saint Louis University, Madrid)

4.2.1 Address for correspondence / Endere o para correspond ncia

Carlos A. M. Gouveia

14 EISFL Workshop

Departamento de Estudos Anglísticos

Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa

Cidade Universitária

1600-214 Lisboa

Portugal

E-mail / Correio-electrónico: 14eisflw@mail.fl.ul.pt

Phone / Telefone: (+351) 21 792 00 00

Fax: (+351) 21 796 00 63

Workshop Webpage: <http://www.fl.ul.pt/DEA/14eisflw/Index.htm>

4.3 Conversations on Language, Brain, Culture

Date: July 4th, 2002

Venue: Macquarie University

Speakers include:

- Professor Michael Arbib, Director of the Brain Project, University of Southern California, and lively, engaging presenter from last years widely acclaimed Language, Brain, Culture conference
- Dr. David Butt, Director, Centre for Language in Social Life, Dept of Linguistics, Macquarie University
- Dr Geoffrey Williams, Department of English, University of Sydney
- Dr Clare Painter, Department of English, University of NSW

See <http://homepage.mac.com/asfla/asfla02/> for details

4.4 ASFLA 2002: Perspectives on Semantics from SFL

Date: July 5th-7th, 2002

Venue: Macquarie University

Plenary speakers:

- Dr. David Butt, Director, Centre for Language in Social Life, Dept of Linguistics, Macquarie University
- Dr Alice Caffarel, Dept of French Studies, University of Sydney
- Professor Jim Martin, Dept of Linguistics, University of Sydney
- Karl Maton, University of Cambridge

Workshop presenters include:

- Dr Geoff Williams, English Department, University of Sydney
- Dr Carmel Cloran, University of Wollongong
- Dr Peter White, University of Birmingham

Conference convenor: Annabelle Lukin, Centre for Language in Social Life, Macquarie University, alukin@laurel.ocs.mq.edu.au

General enquires: becksyb@hotmail.com

Within SFL, a variety of models for the description of the semantic stratum have been proposed. These include Hasan's Message Semantics, Cloran's Rhetorical Units', Martin's work on Discourse Semantics in English Text and the more recent Appraisal Systems, Butt's Semantic Cycles, Matthiessen's RST, and Halliday and Matthiessen's work on Element-Figure-Sequence. Work on phonology in relation to semantics has also been important within SF linguistics. There is widespread agreement that work in this area lags behind our descriptions of grammatical systems, although the semantic orientation of these systems – e.g. the systems of THEME, MOOD and TRANSITIVITY – will enable us to take the description of semantics much further than it has traditionally been taken.

The 2002 ASFLA conference will be one of a number of opportunities being planned for discussions and debates on modelling semantics. There will be plenary talks, parallel papers and workshop presentations on different aspects of semantics. As well, we would anticipate having papers on the usual diverse range of topics which reflect the great variety of questions and problems to which SF theory has been applied.

Immediately following this conference, there will be two weeks of linguistics workshops, under the umbrella of the Australian Linguistics Institute (ALI), also at Macquarie University. For more information, see the webpage of the Macquarie Dept of Linguistics, www.ling.mq.edu.au

While you're there, don't miss the chance to read the Department's newsletter, called LingLine. Under the editorship of Tessa Green, LingLine provides a very comprehensive source of news about matters linguistic.

See <http://homepage.mac.com/asfla/asfla02/> for details - abstract will shortly be posted to that site.

4.5 Norman Fairclough Master Classes in CDA at the University of Queensland,

Phil Graham, University of Queensland

There has been ample cross-pollination between SFG and CDA perspectives over the last decade or more, a fact reflected in the organising theme of last year's ISFC meeting in Ottawa. This July, Professor Norman Fairclough of Lancaster University, a key figure in the development of CDA, and of links between CDA and SFG, is giving two master classes for postgraduate researchers at the University of Queensland (UQ).

The classes are jointly sponsored by UQ's School of Education, Business Economics and Law Faculty, and the Centre for Social Research in Communication. So far the courses have attracted researchers from throughout Australian universities, the UK, US, and New Zealand. The emphasis of the classes will be

upon helping researchers and research students develop their work in CDA. Professor Fairclough will also give an overview of his current and recent work.

The classes are running 11-13 July and 18-20 July. Unfortunately, the 18-20 class, which was originally to be the only class, filled up before the event was formally announced. Professor Fairclough kindly agreed to give another class between 11-13 July, and there are a few places left at the time of writing.

Participants will receive a reading pack of as yet unpublished work by Professor Fairclough, and a certificate of attendance from the UQ School of Education upon completing the classes.

For further information or bookings, contact Phil Graham (phil.graham@mailbox.uq.edu.au), or visit the master class website at <http://www.uq.edu.au/gsm/NFindex.html>.

Other links: Language in New Capitalism (LNC) group <http://www.cddc.vt.edu/host/lnc>

4.6 Appraisal Workshop

Dear colleagues

We are pleased to announce that Peter White, Birmingham University, UK, teaches a workshop on Appraisal (how opinion gets expressed in text) at Aalborg University on 26-28 August 2002 (mornings from 9-13). The workshop will take place right after the Symposium 'Constructing Image and Ideology in Mass Media Discourse'.

For further information on the workshop and the symposium, see relevant link at: www.sprog.auc.dk/image2002

It is still possible to register for the symposium (without paper). Final deadlines for registration:

Symposium: 15 July 2002

Workshop: 15 July 2002

Further inquiries to the organizing committee: email: image@sprog.auc.dk

Best wishes

Jeanne Strunck, Bente Vestergaard and Inger Lassen (organizers)

4.7 SYSFLAN Workshop, 24-26 July 2002

The Systemic Functional Linguistic Association of Nigeria (SYSFLAN) has scheduled a Workshop for July this year.

Date: 24 – 26 July 2002

Venue: Faculty of Arts, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria Nigeria.

The following scholars have accepted to present Lead Papers at the Workshop:

1. Professor Funsho Akere, Head, English Department, University of Lagos (Unilag).
2. Dr. Adeyemi Daramola (Unilag): Ph.D Macquarie University.
3. Professor Kevin N. Nwogu of Federal University of Technology, Yola, Adamawa State, Nigeria
4. Dr. A Rasheed, Bayero University, Kano; former student of Margaret Berry's.

The Themes to be explored are:

- a. Systemic Functional Linguistics and the Analysis of Discourse
- b. Systemic Functional Linguistics and the Learning/Teaching of Language
- c. Systemic Functional Linguistics and the Analysis of Text (Literary and non-Literary)

Participants are expected from all parts of Nigeria, especially the North.

Ernest Akerejola

SYSFLAN'S Immediate Past President

4.8 Towards Humane Technologies: Biotechnology, new media, and citizenship

The ASFLA/Network newsletter might seem a strange place to extend an invitation to a conference focused on biotechnology. It shouldn't be.

The social changes being wrought which involve new technologies are extensive and massive. New contexts, new meanings, new understandings of what it means to be human – all of these are contingent to some degree upon new understandings of what it means to be human in a globalised, increasingly technologised world. Nothing highlights this as much as new biotechnologies. Nothing should be more relevant to sociolinguistics.

These phenomena are of much concern to linguists as they are to farmers and the “disabled”. In fact the conference has attracted such an interdisciplinary array of scholars, legislators, community members, and practitioners that the

conference itself presents an opportunity for research as a problematic sociolinguistic phenomenon.

Why "biotechnology, new media, and citizenship"?

In the widespread debates about the future of biotechnology, many people feel that institutional and expert voices often overpower those of people who are personally and immediately affected by current technological developments, or the lack thereof. Such people include, for example, people with disabilities; people conceived through reproductive technologies; people who use reproductive technologies to conceive; farmers and graziers; scientists at the coal-face; government project and policy officers who promote and regulate the bioindustries; and community members who feel they have much to contribute to the debate yet feel they have no way to influence our technological direction.

Yet in today's mass mediated arena we all have almost daily experiences of the widespread excitement and concern about new technologies and media forms, especially biotechnologies. It seems that the potentials for our new technologies are boundless, regardless of whichever attitude one takes towards them. Often they appear as inevitable, ubiquitous, agent-like—almost human. Too often, though, the human-ness of our new technologies gets ignored as we stand in thrall of their potentials, and their actualities.

New media are always dependent on older media. Biotechnology is dependent on any number of media for its public propagation, acceptance, or rejection. These include, but are not limited to, ICT, mass media, and institutional media (the institutions of law, policy, and various other organs of public opinion). A "new media" perspective on biotechnology provides a new way to understand the current issues surrounding the emergence of biotechnology and its attendant possibilities.

In effect, a new media perspective allows us to map out and comprehend the extent to which developments in a field such as biotechnology can and do affect our lives, the lives of other species, and the world we live in. Citizenship is the process of engagement in such issues which is fundamental to healthy liberal democracies. It is in the spirit of citizenship that we take a new media perspective on biotechnological advances.

Media in all forms are the means by which we move meanings and ideas from one context to another, across time and space. As such, an emergence of new media forms is always historically significant. Such emergences create possibilities for new forms of human relatedness; new ways of understanding what it means to be human; access to new meaning systems, new cultures, new beliefs, and new knowledges. So at least in a limited sense, we can also see biotechnologies and their associated practices as mediating practices—as biomedias. Biomedias provide new perspectives on what it means to be human, to be healthy, or even to be living; they move fundamental aspects of life from hitherto "secret" places into the realm of public space and commercial manipulation; they open possibilities for new knowledge about life; and they present new challenges to human understanding about what it means to be human and humane.

Towards humane technologies is a forum for creating new understandings about these directions in our society. We want to ask important questions about what kinds of meanings are made and moved because of biotechnologies; about who gets to make the meanings that count; and about creating a forum for making meaningful contributions to the direction of our technological processes. That is something that cannot be done in isolation or ignorance. We invite you to join us in approaching biotechnology research and commercialisation as a challenge of citizenship.

The organisers welcome SFL practitioners who are interested in these issues to participate. The event is sponsored by Biotech Australia, UQ Business Economics and Law Faculty, the UQ Community Service and Research Centre, and the QUT program in Applied Ethics.

Speakers include:

Norman Fairclough

Peter Isaacs

Joseph Vogel

(<http://www.thebiodiversitycartel.com/cartel/paginas/framecartel.asp?idsec=4&id-oma=2>)

David Seedhouse

http://www.aut.ac.nz/research_showcase/research_activity_areas/davsee.shtml

“And many many more”, as they say in showbiz.

For further information see <http://www.uq.edu.au/gsm/biomedindex.html>

Or contact the organisers - Naomi <n.sunderland@qut.edu.au>, Phil <phil.graham@mailbox.uq.edu.au> Peter <p.isaacs@qut.edu.au >

4.9 The Developing Discourses of Identity and Immigration in Europe

A workshop to be held in Aberystwyth, Wales, 22-27 July, 2002, is titled "The Developing Discourses of Identity and Immigration in Europe" (Workshop 510). It is to be held at The Eighth International Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas -- European Culture in a Changing World: Between Nationalism and Globalism. The URL of the conference is <www.aber.ac.uk/tfts/issei2002> and the workshop chair is Robert Gould, School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6, Canada, <rgould@ccs.carleton.ca> (613) 520-2600, ext. 2123.

4.10 Ruqaiya Hasan s visit to South Africa, July 2002

Following John Polias and Geoff Thompson,s visit last year, we are privileged to have another member of the systemics community visit South Africa. We have received generous funding from the SA National Research Foundation for Professor Ruqaiya Hasan to visit Pietermaritzburg, Grahamstown and Cape Town to present papers and seminars. Her focus will be primarily educational, in response to the feedback we had from people on what they would most like her to talk about.

The following is her itinerary:

4-6 July, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg — Seminar on 'Understanding Language in Relation to Teaching and Learning'

8-10 July, SA Applied Linguistics Association (SAALA) and Linguistics Association of SA (LSSA) combined annual Conference, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg Keynote address on 'Globalization, Literacy and Ideology'

11-13 July, Rhodes University, Grahamstown -repeat of Pietermaritzburg seminar

17-19 July, University of Cape Town -The Second International Basil Bernstein Symposium paper on 'Semiotic Mediation and Bernstein's Code Theory: On the Conditions of Knowledge in a Pluralistic Society'

4.11 The Transcultured Self: Experiencing Languages and Intercultural Communication

6-8 December, 2002 - Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

<http://www.cf.ac.uk/encap/langcom/ialic/conference/index.html>

4.12 Conferences in China

China's next systemic functional conference is to be held in Qinhuangdao in July (or Aug) 2003, hosted by Yanshan Univ. Qinhuangdao is a beautiful coastal tourist city. International scholars are welcome to come.

Huang Guowen of Zhongshan University in Guangzhou will host a conference discussing the application using SFL and other linguistics theories in translation.

4.13 European Symposia on Multi-modal Discourse

We are grateful to Cassily Charles for the following information about plans to follow up the Symposium Multi-modal Discourse in Salzburg in January 2002.

Following enthusiastic feedback on the Salzburg Symposium on Multi-modal Discourse earlier this year (University of Salzburg, Austria, 25th & 26th January 2002), a regular series of European multimodality symposia has been proposed, with the next to take place in Norway in 2004.

Eija Ventola's initial plan in 2001 was to invite to Salzburg 'the Italian contingent' (i.e. Christopher Taylor, Anthony Baldry & Paul Thibault), for a seminar on their recent multimodality work. This eventually evolved into a very densely-packed two-day symposium, with plenary speakers including Gunther Kress and Theo van Leeuwen, and participants from Australia, Singapore, Japan and all over Europe.

The symposium was small and intense but quite inclusive. There were about 60 participants in total, about half of whom presented papers. Speakers ranged from the leading scholars to beginning postgraduates, and drew on a range of frameworks. A few papers discussed on-going issues of building and adapting theoretical tools for inter-semiotic discourse – e.g. Gunther Kress on genre. Others – John Bateman, Christopher Taylor and Anthony Baldry – demonstrated software for the management & analysis of multimodal texts & corpora. The majority of papers focussed on specific modes, media or codes (e.g. typography, hypertext, product samples, gesture), texts (e.g. museum displays, interactive CD-ROMs, popular films) or applications (e.g. translation, expert knowledge representation, the design of teaching materials).

A volume of selected papers edited by the Salzburg organisers (Eija Ventola, Martin Kaltenbacher & Cassily Charles) is in the wings, and should be out late this year. The next multi-modality symposium will be in early May 2004, organised by Eva Maagero at Agder University College, Kristiansand, Norway (eva.maagero@hia.no)

5.0 Past events

5.1 Language, Brain, Culture Conference, December 2001

Language, Brain, Culture conference, University of Sydney, December, 2001

By Annabelle Lukin

Centre for Language in Social Life, Linguistics, Macquarie University

In December last year, the Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association, in conjunction with the Centre for Language in Social Life, Macquarie University, hosted an ambitious, transdisciplinary conference with the theme 'Language, Brain, Culture' (LBC). The conference was the brain-child of Dr. Geoff Williams, (University of Sydney English Department), who, over a coffee following the Bernstein Memorial in January 2001, proposed the conference title, and suggested that we begin by inviting Harvard neurobiologist Terrence

Deacon, author of the well known *The Symbolic Species: the coevolution of language and the brain*. Colleagues Professor Bill Greaves and Dr Jim Benson (Glendon College, York University, Toronto) had already been in discussions with Professor Deacon. Thanks to their ground work, Deacon wrote back almost immediately to accept the invitation.

Terry Deacon was just one of many engaging and lively plenary presenters at the conference. His presentation, “Language as an emergent complex co-evolutionary phenomenon” provided a discussion of the language-brain relationship remarkably resonant with work in systemic functional theory. He argued against any kind of ‘unitary language facility’, suggesting instead that language is at the convergence point between the biological, the social and the semiotic. He rejected computation or design metaphors in relation to the brain, arguing that the brain is organized from ‘the bottom up’. His research demonstrates a degree of plasticity in the brain which is incompatible with notions of language as ‘hard-wired’ in the brain.

But neurobiology was just one of the disciplines represented at the conference. Archaeologist Professor Iain Davidson, of the University of New England (Armidale, NSW) reviewed archaeological evidence and arguments about language origins which have been debated over the last 15 years. Fuzzy engineer Professor Michio Sugeno, of the Riken Brain Sciences Institute in Tokyo presented a paper titled “Verbalization of computers toward brain-style computing architecture”. Sugeno discussed his current research project, which aims to enable computers to compute meaning, and systemic functional theory is the linguistics of choice for his project. A number of researchers from Macquarie University’s Centre for Language in Social Life are consultants to this project.

To the conference committee’s delight, Professor Michael Arbib, Director of the University of Southern California Brain Project, submitted an abstract to the conference. Thanks to Geoff’s timetable juggling, we were able to schedule Michael Arbib’s paper as a ‘featured presentation’. Arbib demonstrated his capacity to ride a steep learning curve when he delivered a revised version of his original paper, “Extending the mirror system hypothesis”, incorporating some ideas from systemic functional theory in his discussion. His paper generated a very exciting sense of the possibilities of transdisciplinary discussions. Michael Arbib accepted an invitation to return to Sydney for the 2002 ASFLA conference, and he is delivering a plenary paper there, as well as being a key presenter at the pre-conference seminar designed to build on the discussions initiated at the LBC conference.

It might seem, from the plethora of experts from this variety of disciplines, that little space would have been left over linguistic input. Yet the conference managed to feature plenaries from the following, in order of their presentation:

- o Professor Christian Matthiessen, “Approaching ‘language, brain, culture’ systemically: A journey of exploration”
- o Emeritus Professor Ruqaiya Hasan, “On semantic variation: talk with consciousness in mind”

- o Dr David Butt, “Significant behaviours: Art, language, culture and the growth of human potential to mean”
- o Clinical Linguistics Research Group (Dr Beth Armstrong): “Language disorder: A window to language organization, the brain and learning how to mean
- o Emeritus Professor Michael Halliday, “The architecture of language: How children build up the resource which enables them to mean”

The parallel papers were also successful in attracting a presenters from a range of disciplines, including linguistics, archaeology, psychiatry, education, sociology, and speech pathology. It is only through opportunities such as these, in which cross-disciplinary discussions are possible, that we can expect progress on the big questions about the language, brain, culture interactions.

The conference was opened by Robyn Williams, a science broadcaster of many many years experience. He hosts The Science Show and Ockham’s Razor, two high rating programmes on ABC Radio National, which is Australia’s public broadcaster. Robyn passed our programme onto Natasha Mitchell, who was then in preparation for a new programme now running called ‘All in the Mind’. Natasha attended a number of sessions at the conference, and arranged interviews with some of the presenters.

A really big thanks must go to Geoff Williams for conceptualising and organizing a conference which many are still raving about. As someone who participated on the conference committee with Geoff, I remain in awe of his enormous energy and capacity to get the job done with minimal fuss.

5.2 Past conferences in China

We are very grateful to Professor Fang Yan (Tsinghua University, Beijing) for providing us with information about some recent conferences in China.

The Eighth National DA conference held in Suzhou from May 18 - 20. To begin with, Suzhou has completely changed from the old poor city into a real modern city with the its facsinating classical southern features.About the conference, 83 acholars attended including your old friends Hu, Zhu Rongsheng, Zhang Delu, Yang Xinzhang, Ren Shaozeng, Huang Guowen and many new faces, mainly PhD and MA students. Among the keynote speakers addressed issues concerning the nature of context (Hu), a diachronic study of the path of DA (Zhu), a further study of cohesion (Zhang), Applying SFL theory to evaluate translation(Huang), elaboration on the Apraisal system and applications (Yang; Li Zhanzi), a diachronic study of genre (Fang), Language, Disourse and Power (Xinbin). In the afternoons, the participants had group discussion and more presentations.

Before this conference, **a stylistic conference** was held in Chongqing at which the application of SFL in stylistic analysis occupies a noticable place.

Then immediately after the DAC, Hu and some other scholars went to attend a **conference on Semiotics**.

5.3 Harvard Evolution of Language Conference 2002

Jim Benson and Bill Greaves, York University, Toronto.

The Harvard Evolution of Language Conference 2002 was a remarkably informative and stimulating event. Owing to the inevitable parallel sessions, we were able to attend only a fraction of the proceedings, but a glance at the program (<http://www.ling.ed.ac.uk/evolang2002/>) will make clear the diversity of fields of study that were represented. Of particular interest were the strands on animal communication, mirror neurons, and archaeology.

Our poster on 'The interface of neurobiological and linguistic development' was the result of collaboration between ourselves and Chris Cleirigh, and Jared Tagliatela of the Language Research Center in Atlanta. We relied heavily on visuals for this, and found that they were very effective in getting across basic systemic concepts such as stratal and metafunctional diversification. In fact, the thing that stands out most for us was the ease with which the Hallidayan perspective on language permitted cross-disciplinary conversations. For example, we had two lengthy extra-curricular sessions with Richard Lewontin. To take another example, we found a musicologist from Johns Hopkins, Elizabeth Tolbert, who says that Ed McDonald's systemic approach to music has a lot in common with her own, and she is excited at the prospect of meeting him at the International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition at the Uni of NSW this July.

In this respect, many conferees were ahead of the curve proposed by Ray Jackendoff in one of the plenaries, when he presented excerpts from his new book, *Foundations of Language* (OUP, 2002). It turns out that there are problems with UG from an evolutionary perspective. Since it is 'treated as one decomposable unit', it is hard to see how it could have evolved incrementally. Jackendoff proposed to save the appearances for UG by 'seeing language as composed of many semi-independent parts, with syntax not as the sole generative capacity, but as a mediator between phonology and semantics, which are independent coexisting combinatorial systems'. Sounds good to us.

The concluding panel discussion featured a phonologist, Michael Studdert-Kennedy, a primatologist, Marc Hauser, and the 'father of modern linguistics', Noam Chomsky. This was a discussion that was hard to get off the ground, since one of the panellists maintained that about all you could do with the subject was to come up with competing fairy tales.

From our point of view, the new information was in the papers and in further discussions with the authors. For example, we discovered that monkey alarm calls are more rich and complex than standard accounts of vervets would suggest. Klaus Zuberbühler reported on two kinds of monkeys in the Tai forest that share the same habitat. The Campbell's monkeys have alarm calls for leopards

and eagles, as do the neighboring Diana monkeys. The calls of both kinds of monkeys are acoustically very different, but each kind will perform the appropriate escape behaviour no matter which kind of monkey emits the call. Moreover, the female Campbell's monkey calls are radically different acoustically from those of the male Campbell's monkey. Interestingly, the calls seem to be addressed to the predators (a contribution to signalling theory made by Amotz Zahavi, in a plenary talk) rather than conspecifics; in addition, the calls are audible over long distances, the better to indicate the presence of a dominant male to any unaffiliated males in the vicinity. Incidentally, when these unaffiliated males emit an alarm call, it stirs up the females of the nuclear group. It seemed to us that there was much more interpretation going on in this environment than standard accounts suggest, and that 'alarm' calls may be a misnomer.

Then there was the flutist who played a replica of a 53,000 year old Neanderthal flute. The original was made from the femur of juvenile cave bear, and the flutist made the replica from a similar bone almost as old. It looks like music has been around almost as long as language.

Fortunately, in the internet age, it isn't necessary to actually beanywhere to know about such things. Here is a website that features the flutist Jelle Atema, and it has audio clips as well:

http://www.exploratorium.edu/aaas-2000/0221_dispatch_flutes.html

In short, the conference provided many things to mull over, and presented many opportunities for further fruitful collaboration between systemicists and those who are not linguists but who are greatly interested in language.

6.0 New Systemic Functional theses

6.1 Virginia Stuart-Smith, Ph.D. thesis

Virginia Stuart-Smith. 2002. *Rhetorical Structure Theory as a Model of Semantics: a Corpus-Based Analysis from a Systemic-Functional Perspective*. Macquarie University.

Rhetorical Structure Theory (RST) is an approach to the study of text organisation which conceptualises a domain within the semantic stratum in relational terms. The present study aims to pursue the complementarity between RST and Systemic Functional Linguistics (SF). It investigates a corpus of six undergraduate Psychology essays that were analysed using RST. A database was designed to manipulate the corpus of essay texts and RST analyses to allow further categorisation and coding, as well as the extraction of particular parts of the corpus for analysis. The study has three components.

(1) The first component involves viewing part of the corpus from the perspective of a systemic analysis looking at the RST analysis. It deals with a whole essay in

relation to the Method of Development and Main Point. Support for the view that the method of development is embodied in the rhetorical organisation of a text will be presented.

(2) The second component involves viewing selected parts of the corpus from the perspective of the RST analysis looking at the systemic analysis. It focuses on relations within clause complexes and specific relations in particular between-clause complex-contexts. Significant correspondence will be demonstrated between the analyses of rhetorical relations that occur within clause complexes and systemic clause complexing analyses. Also patterns in the movement of lexical chains through the relevant sections of text involved in Elaboration relations that occur between clause complexes will be described. Joints and Contrasts will also be investigated as part of the second component and evidence to support the conceptual separation of schemas and relations on the basis of the simultaneous systems of taxis and logico-semantic type will be presented.

(3) The third component involves a quantitative analysis of the whole corpus. Based on this analysis, a proposal will be put forward that offers a description of the hierarchical nature of text organisation. Text organisation will be presented as being distributed into five bands on the basis of clustering of text spans, initially on the basis of clause complex boundary and then on the basis of text span size.

6.2 Elizabeth Thomson, Ph.D. thesis

Elizabeth Thomson. *Exploring the Textual Metafunction in Japanese: a case study of selected written texts*. University of Wolloongong.

This study sets out to explore the relationship between the grammar of the textual metafunction within Systemic Functional Grammar and the organisation of a set of Japanese selected written texts into discrete text types or genres. The study is motivated by the need for grammatical descriptions of Japanese discourse for teaching Japanese as a Second/Foreign Language. Descriptions of how Japanese organises textually, as a coherent message, are limited, with most work centred on clause level descriptions. This study looks at the resources of textual organisation above the clause.

This study investigates the proposition that in Japanese, the clause is patterned in a motivated manner in its discourse environment and that this patterning correlates with the organisation of discourse. The theoretical resources of the Systemic Functional model of language are used to investigate these patterns above clause rank. In order to capture the organisational patterns above the clause, the study utilizes the T-unit or Theme-unit (Fries 1995c), the use of which can account for the operation of co-referential ellipsis and clause chaining in Japanese.

The corpus of this study consists of eight instances of five separate genres. The five genres are 1) the factual news commentary, 2) the hard news story, 3) the

soft news story, 4) the nursery tale and 5) the narrative. Each instance is segmented into T-units. The order of the constituents within the T-units in each text is quantified. The quantitative results indicate that the choice of what is selected as first in the T-unit is significant and equates with Theme. The system of THEME as it appears in the corpus is thus described.

Following the description of the system of THEME, each text in the corpus is examined for patterns which demonstrate that the choice of Theme keys into the method of development of a text and that certain configurations of Theme serve to realise the function of each of the generic stages in each text.

The description of each text begins with an examination of the generic stages. This is followed by an examination of the selection of Themes within each stage and how these collectively work to produce a particular method of development. The generic stages are then described logically in relation to each other and consideration is given to the distribution of given and new information and how these configurations also key into the method of development. The picture of each text as an instance of a particular genre is built up.

6.3 Guowen Yang

Guowen Yang. *The Description and Implementation of the Chinese Aspect System*.

FB10, Sprach-und Literaturwissenschaften

Bremen University, 28334 Bremen, Germany

gwyang@uni-bremen-de

The research presented in this dissertation is composed of mainly three parts. The first part of the work is to give a full systemic description of the Chinese aspect system which is shown in a grammatical network with all relevant entry conditions and realization rules. The system not only contains simple aspect forms, but also all possible complex aspect forms on which little investigation has been done in previous research. The second part of the work is to carry out a semantic analysis of each aspect form in terms of temporal logic theories; this has also not been deeply explored before. In the research, much work is done on looking into the intrinsic temporal relations of both simple aspect forms and complex forms, especially on investigating, analyzing, and generalizing the semantic conditions for the combination of different aspect forms to explain the compatibility of particular aspect combinations. The third part of the work is to implement the system in the KPML multilingual generator to generate Chinese sentences. In the generation, the temporal relations of aspect forms are taken as semantic inputs. Under the guidance of entry conditions, the grammatical network is traversed, proper grammatical features are selected, and sentences in appropriate aspect forms are generated. In the dissertation, most existing achievements in the area are introduced, discussed, and considered for their relevance for the Chinese aspect problem. Comrie's theoretical framework

of aspect and Vendler's claims concerning situation types are currently being used in analyzing the properties of each individual aspect form. The research is supervised by Professor John A. Bateman at the University of Bremen, Germany.

6.4 Theses from Deakin University

Two recently completed theses attached to the Deakin University Medical Interpreting project have addressed the issue of the interpersonal aspects of the physician's talk and the way it is interpreted by professional medical interpreters.

Di Hirsh's MA thesis followed Martin's work on the interpersonal metafunction in particular, adding gaze direction and aspects of the patient's lifeworld and to a lesser extent some features of White's appraisal analysis.

Cameron Willis' BA(Hons) thesis is an appraisal analysis of the physician's rapport and makes exclusive use of White's approach to this topic within the interpersonal metafunction. The quality of the rapport depends on the quality of the interpreting for the non-English speaking patient and the physician.

Both theses have delivered findings relevant to theoretical and practical material being developed for medical interpreters within the larger project. The outcomes will involve interpreters being much more attuned to interpreting not just the medical content of what the physician says but the way he or she expresses it.

Helen Tebble

Director Medical Interpreting Project

Deakin University

6.4.1 Di Hirsh, MA thesis

Di Hirsh. *Interpersonal Features of Talk in Interpreted Medical Consultations*. MA thesis, Deakin University.

6.4.2 Cameron Willis, BA Hons thesis

Cameron Willis. *Linguistic Features of Rapport: An investigation into consultant physicians' use of rapport*. BA(Hons) thesis, Deakin University.

7.0 New Systemic Functional books/resources

7.1 On grammar

By M.A.K Halliday. London & New York: Continuum.

The first volume of the 10 volume set of M.A.K. Halliday's collected works will be published in July and launched at the forthcoming conference in Liverpool.

7.1.1 DESCRIPTION

For nearly half a century, Professor M.A.K. Halliday has been enriching the discipline of linguistics with his keen insight into this social semiotic phenomenon we call language.

This is the first volume in a series presenting the collected works of Professor M.A.K. Halliday. This first volume contains seventeen papers, including a new piece entitled "a personal perspective", in which Professor Halliday offers his own perspective on language and linguistic theory as covered in his collected works. The first part presents early papers (1957-1966) on basic concepts such as category, structure, class, and rank. The second part highlights how over the span of two decades (mid-sixties to mid-eighties) Halliday developed systemic theory to account for linguistic phenomena extending upward through the ranks from word to clause to text. The third part includes more recent work in which Halliday discusses the issues confronting those who would study linguistics, or as Firth described it "language turned back on itself".

7.1.2 CONTENTS

Introduction: A Personal Perspective by M.A.K. Halliday

Section One: Early Papers on Basic Concepts

1. Some Aspects of Systematic Description and Comparison in Grammatical Analysis
 2. Categories of the Theory of Grammar
 3. Class in Relation to the Axes of Chain and Choice in Language
 4. Some Notes on "Deep" Grammar
 5. The Concept of Rank: A Reply
- Appendix to Section One

Section Two: Word-Clause-Text

6. Lexis as a Linguistic Level
7. Language Structure and Language Function

8. Modes of Meaning and Modes of Expression: Types of Grammatical Structure and Their Determination by Different Semantic Functions
9. Text Semantics and Clause Grammar: How is a Text Like a Clause?
10. Dimensions of Discourse Analysis: Grammar

Section Three: Construing and Enacting

11. On the Ineffability of Grammatical Categories
12. Spoken and Written Modes of Meaning
13. How Do You Mean?
14. Grammar and Daily Life: Concurrence and Complementarity
15. On Grammar and Grammaticals

7.1.3 SUBJECT AREA

Linguistics (general and applied). Students and scholars.

7.1.4 RELATED TITLES

Linguistics Studies of Text and Discourse (volume 2 of Collected Works of MAK Halliday), MAK Halliday, edited by Jonathan Webster, 2002, hb 0 8284 5868 8

7.1.5 FULL CONTENTS

M A K Halliday was born in Yorkshire in 1925. He was trained in Chinese for war service with the British army; studied in China, taught Chinese in Britain for a number of years, then moved into linguistics, becoming in 1965 Professor of General Linguistics at University College London. In 1975 he was appointed Foundation Professor of Linguistics at the University of Sydney, where he remained until his retirement. He has taught as Visiting Professor in many countries and has honorary degrees from universities in Australia, Britain, Canada, China, France, Greece and India. As a self-styled “generalist” he has published in many branches of linguistics, both theoretical and applied (a distinction which he himself rejects), including grammar and semantics, discourse analysis and stylistics, phonology, sociolinguistics, computational linguistics, language education and child language development. The volumes in the present series encompass all these aspects of Halliday’s work.

7.2 Relations and functions within and around language

Peter H. Fries, Michael Cummings, David Lockwood & William Spruiell (eds.). *Relations and functions within and around language*. London & New York: Continuum.

7.2.1 Key Features

- Integrates the analysis of both written and oral texts.

- Discusses a single oral text using several theoretical frameworks.

7.2.2 Description

This book describes language as a network of functional relations involving a context which is also a network of functional relations. The essays in Part I present several perspectives on the theory of language as functional relations. The essays in Part II discuss an oral text using a variety of functional perspectives. All of the essays are by linguists interested in oral and written texts who have achieved international recognition in their fields. Illustrated in this book are cognitive, social construction, social praxis and anthropological approaches to the description of text. Currently in linguistics there is a movement towards careful use of corpora in linguistic and text analysis. This movement has involved the use of written corpora, spoken corpora and corpora which consist of combinations of spoken and written text. But little detailed discussion of the language of a single oral text from multiple perspectives has been published. Most text analyses address written texts -- often literary works. This book is among the first to integrate the analysis of the language of spoken and written texts.

7.2.3 Contents

Part I. Theory. Michael Gregory: Relations and Functions within and around Language: The Systemic-functional Tradition. Jay L. Lemke: Ideology, Intertextuality and the Communication of Science. Paul J. Thibault: Interpersonal Meaning and the Discursive Construction of Action, Attitudes and Values. Peter H. Fries: The Flow of Information in a Written English Text. David G. Lockwood: Intrastratal and Interstratal Relations in Language and their Functions. Part II. Application. Stephen A. Tyler: Memory and Discourse. David G. Lockwood: Highlighting in Stratificational-Cognitive Linguistics. Sydney Lamb: Interpreting Discourse. Wallace Chafe: Prosody and Emotion in a Sample of Real Speech. Michael Gregory: Phasal Analysis within Communication Linguistics: Two Contrastive Discourses. Peter H. Fries: Some Aspects of Coherence in a Conversation.

7.2.4 Editors

Peter H. Fries is Professor of English and Linguistics at Central Michigan University.

Michael Cummings is Professor of English at York University in Canada.

David Lockwood is Professor in the Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages at Michigan State University.

William Spruiell is Assistant Professor of English Language and Literature at Central Michigan University.

7.2.5 Details

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7.3 Towards a Relational-Perspective Approach to Syntactic Semantics

Juan Qian. 2001. *Toward a Relational-Perspective Approach to Syntactic Semantics*. Beijing: Renmin Jiaoyu Chubanshe (People's Education Press).

Contents:

Preface by Hu Zhuanglin

Preface "Functional Syntax: an overview" by Susumo Kuno

Preface "Structural and Formal Linguistics in Prague" by Petr Sgall

1. Introduction

2. A survey of relevant studies

[Vilém Mathesius, Frantisek Danes, Charles Fillmore, Wallace Chafe, Michael Halliday]

3. A relational-perspective approach: relations

4. A relational-perspective approach: perspectives

5. Internal dative: a relational-perspective approach

6. Concluding remarks

7.4 A systemic-functional approach to grammatical metaphor.

Wenfang Fan. 2001. *A Systemic-functional Approach to Grammatical Metaphor*. Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press.

Abstract

Ever since Aristotle people have been interested in and doing a lot of research on metaphor. But most of the studies of metaphor, have been mostly concerned with metaphor in its rhetorical sense of the term. Though some linguists have realized the metaphorical nature of grammar, research on grammatical metaphor (GM) is rare. The American functionalists did a lot of work on the relationship between form and content under the titles of iconicity and grammaticalization, but they failed to connect these phenomena to GM. It was with the systemic-functionalists that the conscious study of GM started. Following Halliday's initial treatment of GM in 1985, these systemic-functionalists began their reset in the field of GM. But these researchers differ in their views about GM, and even have not agreed on the concept of GM itself, each focusing only on a certain aspect. Compared with studies on metaphor in its rhetorical sense of the term and on other language phenomena, studies on GM are far from being enough. Therefore, I set out to make a systematic exploration of GM, hoping to bring together the scattered discussions on this topic under a systemic-functional approach and to help develop the theory of GM.

In the frontier of cognitive linguistics, metaphor is explained with more explanatory power. According to Lakoff, metaphor is a cross-domain mapping in the conceptual system. This concept is accepted here in the explanation of GM. At the same time, Halliday's treatment of GM as transferred realizations in the lexicon is also accepted. The combination of the Hallidayian and the cognitive linguistic approach to the problem led to the definition of GM. GM is taken to be a special type of the general phenomenon "metaphor". It is an incongruent realization of meanings involving transference of grammatical units from one grammatical domain to another.

Based on this definition, GM is studied systematically under the systemic-functional framework. Corresponding to the three metafunctions of language, GM is divided into three kinds: ideational GM (including experiential GM and logical GM), interpersonal GM (including speech function metaphor and metaphor of modality), and textual GM. The three kinds of GM are studied in turn. In this systematic way, the former partial and scattered studies done by Halliday and his followers are brought together. The study results in some modifications of the former studies and in the development of the theory of GM.

Under the systemic-functional framework, GM of each kind is classified a step further along the delicacy scale. For example, taking experiential GM as the transference from one kind of process to another, experiential GM is classified into four kinds: transference from process A to process B, from process Ai to process Aii, from overt process to covert process, and from zero process to overt process. The classification of GM along the delicacy scale makes the understanding of GM deeper and more concrete.

In the present systematic study of GM, some theories previously studied as separate phenomena, such as iconicity and grammaticalization, and the speech act theory, are treated only as diverse names of the same general linguistic phenomenon of metaphor under the systemic-functional framework.

The dissertation ends with a summary of the general characteristic of GM – recursion, and some conclusions of the whole dissertation.

7.5 Applied Linguistics and Language Teacher Education

Nat Bartels (Ed.) *Applied Linguistics and Language Teacher Education*. Dordrecht: Kluwer.

This book is a collection of 20 commissioned studies examining what teachers learn (or don't) in different classes during language teacher education and how this knowledge is used (or not) in their practice as teachers. Several of the chapters look at the learning of systemic-functional views language. The book also includes a chapter reviewing other research relevant to this area (i.e. knowledge transfer, expertise, teacher learning) and research methodology used to research such questions. It will likely be published sometime in 2003.

7.6 Teaching Multiliteracies across the Curriculum: Changing Contexts of Text and Image in Classroom Practice

Unsworth, Len. 2001. *Teaching Multiliteracies Across the Curriculum: Changing contexts of text and image in classroom practice*. Buckingham: Open University Press.

This book is grounded in systemic functional linguistics and its extrapolation to "a grammar of visual design" as described by Kress and vanLeeuwen(1996) More information at the Open University Press website: <http://195.89.185.89/bd.cgi/openup/isb?0335206042> and for Australian readers the Allen and Unwin website: <http://www.allenandunwin.com/shopping/product.asp?ISBN=0335206042>

CONTENTS:

1. Changing dimensions of school literacies 2. Learning about language as a resource for literacy development 3. Describing visual literacies 4. Distinguishing the literacies of school science and humanities 5. Exploring multimodal meaning-making in literature for children 6. Developing multiliteracies in the early school years 7. Developing multiliteracies in content area teaching 8. Teaching multiliteracies in the English classroom.

7.7 Expository Discourse:° A Genre-Based Approach to Social Science Research Texts

Beverly A. Lewin, Jonathan Fine, and Lynne Young. 2001. *Expository Discourse: A Genre-based Approach to Social Science Texts*. London: Continuum. 2001. ISBN: 0826449131.

Lewin, Beverly (Tel Aviv University), Fine, Jonathan (Bar-Ilan University), Young, Lynne (Carleton University).

Hb: 0-8264-4913-1; x, 166pp; GB£45.00 /US\$79.95.

This volume provides a detailed and explicit account of the genre of social science research articles. While previous literature has analyzed some aspects of the research genre separately, this book presents a comprehensive model which characterizes the generic, registerial and discoursal options as they interweave within a text. Another important contribution of the analysis is the formulation of explicit realisation statements that relate the abstract categories of move and act (as described by Swales and Bhatia) to the way these units actually are created by lexical grammatical choices. The realisation networks draw on the work of systemic functional linguistics, primarily Halliday, Hasan, Martin and Ventola. The added emphasis in this study is that research texts are ultimately persuasive texts and genre 'constraints' can be tightened or loosened in response to the rhetorical dimension. The description of the social science research genre is important both for those teaching English, for speakers and readers of other languages, and for researchers of discourse structure. For teachers, the detailed analysis of texts and the method for determining realization rules will help in guiding students who must understand and produce research articles. For researchers, the qualitative and quantitative analysis show how the different levels of abstraction, from the genre itself to its moves, acts and wordings, are related to each other. Lastly, this analysis can serve as a model for future descriptions of other academic and professional genres.

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7.8 The Language of Conferencing

Eija Ventola, Celia Shalom, Susan Thompson (eds.). 2002. *The Language of Conferencing*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.

Contents:

Part I

Eija Ventola: *Why and what kind of focus on conference presentations?*

Celia Shalom: *The academic conference: A forum for enacting genre knowledge*

Christine Räisänen: *The conference forum: A system of interrelated genres and discursive practices*

Elizabeth Rowley-Jolivet: *Science in the making: Scientific conference presentations and the construction of facts*

Part II

Anni Heino, Eija Tervonen & Jorma Tommola: *Metadiscourse in academic conference presentations*

Susan Thompson: 'As the story unfolds': *The uses of narrative in research presentations*

Cassily Charles and Eija Ventola: *A multi-semiotic genre: The conference slide show*

Monique Frobert-Adamo: *Humour in oral presentations: what's the joke?*

Pauline Webber: *The paper is now open for discussion*

Part III

Irena Vassileva: *Speaker-audience interaction: the case of Bulgarians presenting in English*

Tatyana Yakhontova: *Titles of conference presentation abstracts: a cross-cultural perspective*

Viktor Slepovitch: *English as a conference language for students of business in Belarus: Problems, solutions and prospects*

David Banks: *The French scientist and English as a conference language*

Eija Ventola: *Should I speak English or German? – Conferencing and language code issues*

7.9 Publications on literature

Huisman, Rosemary. 1998. *The Written Poem, Semiotic Conventions from Old to Modern English*. London & New York: Cassell. Repr.pb 1999, Continuum.

Huisman, Rosemary. 2001. "Theme in Exodus: Grammatical Meaning and Spoken Syntax in Old English Poetry." Christian J. Kay & Louise M. Sylvester (ed.), *Lexis and Texts in Early English, Studies presented to Jane Roberts*. Amsterdam: Rodopi. 129-142.

7.10 JASFL Working papers, volume 2

Edited by Noboru Yamaguchi.

Linguistic Analysis and Literary Interpretation (pp.5-16)
Richard Blight

A Note on the Interpersonal-Nuance Carriers in Japanese (pp.17-28)
Ken-ichi Kadooka

Schematic Structure and the Selection of Themes (pp.29-37)
Haruki Takeuchi

Theme, T-units and Method of Development: An Examination of the
News Story in Japanese (pp.39-62)
Elizabeth Anne Thomson

セミオティックベースとそれを利用したテキスト処理について (pp.63-71)
The Semiotic Base as a Resource in Text Processing Systems
伊藤紀子、小林一郎、菅野道夫
Noriko Ito, Ichiro Kobayashi & Michio Sugeno

選択体系機能文法の英語教育への応用：節、過剰中核部、主題の分析による
作文の評価 (pp.73-97)
Applying Systemic Functional Grammar to English Education: Evaluating the Writing
of EFL Students Base on the Analysis of Clause, Process and Theme
佐々木真 Makoto Sasaki

日本語の対人的機能と「伝達的ユニット」—The Kyoto Grammarによる分析試論—
(pp.99-113)
The Interpersonal Function and the Communicative Unit for Japanese: From the
Approach
of 'The Kyoto Grammar'
船本弘史 Hiroshi Funamoto

日英翻訳におけるThemeに関する課題 (pp.115-128)
Thematic Challenges in Translation between Japanese and English
長沼美香子 Mikako Naganuma

テキストの中の母性 (pp.129-143)
Maternity in Text
南里敬三 Keizo Nanri

7.11 Other recent publications

Moore, A., Candlin, C.N., & Plum, G.A. 2001. "Making sense of HIV- related viral load: one expert or two?" *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 3(4), 429-50.

This paper examines how patients with HIV and their doctors jointly interpret "viral load". We show that the term 'viral load' is multiply coded: it calls up the idea of a biographical property of the HIV positive body, but the term is also used as an indicator of drug treatment effectiveness, of patient compliance, and of overall wellness. Such multiple codings can be problematic because they index multiple and potentially conflicting discourses. Three distinct discourses which inform HIV medicine are identified: health measurement, health care, and health experience. These are described in terms of their semantic, lexicogrammatical and interactional patterns to illustrate how doctors and patients navigate their paths through them. In practice, what a viral load result is taken to mean depends on the alignment of patient and doctor in terms of their respective interdiscursive positions. The ability to recognize and flag discursive shifts should be considered a central component of doctors' professional expertise, particularly as a means of supporting patients in contributing their own expertise to clinical decision making.

Nanri, Keizo. 2001. "Logical structures of Japanese texts." *Text* 21(3), 373-409.

7.12 Forthcoming publications

Caffarel, A. forthcoming. *A systemic functional grammar of French. From Grammar to Discourse*. Vol.1 and Vol.2. London: Continuum.

The first volume focuses on clause rank systems and the second volume on group rank systems. Both volumes aim at introducing French linguistics students and researchers to systemic functional grammar as a tool for text analysis and stylistics.

7.13 Software: Systemics 1.0 by K. O Halloran & K. Judd

Systemics 1.0, software for coding SFL analysis developed by Kay O'Halloran and Kevin Judd through a Research Grant at the National University of Singapore, is now available from Singapore University Press. Please see below for an overview of the software, the cost and information about ordering the CDROM. Further information about Systemics 1.0 may be obtained from Kay O'Halloran (see contact details below)

7.13.1 1.OVERVIEW OF THE SOFTWARE

Systemics 1.0 is independent and stand-alone software designed to allow efficient and comprehensive discourse analysis of text from the perspective of Michael Halliday's (1994) Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL).

Systemics 1.0 is designed to be used for both academic and postgraduate research and also for the teaching of SFL in undergraduate and postgraduate courses. However, as the pre-programmed grammar in Systemics 1.0 can be modified, the discourse analyses undertaken with this software can incorporate other theoretical perspectives.

The physical constraints of using SFL for text analysis are overcome through the following features in Systemics 1.0:

1. The options within the major systems for interpersonal, experiential, logical and textual meaning at the rank of word, word group/phrase, clause, clause complex, paragraph and text have been pre-programmed in Systemics 1.0 as the 'standard' functional grammar. This means that the analysis may be manually coded quickly and efficiently through pulldown menus. The generic structure of the text may also be manually coded.
2. The search facility allows the user to extract the results of the analysis for each system at each rank. This includes extracting the functional elements from the text.
3. The pages in Systemics 1.0 containing the analysis (the text divided into numbered clauses, the tables with the clause analysis, the logical relations, exchange structure, reference chains and lexical strings together with the search results) may be printed. There is also a print preview application called GhostView included with Systemics 1.0.
4. The user may modify the existing 'standard' systemic functional grammar by entering new options and systems according to individual requirements. This new grammar may be included in Systemics 1.0 to analyse one text, or it may be saved as a separate grammar file to be used later for the analysis of other texts.
5. There is an additional version, SystemicsBIG, in the Software folder on the CDROM. This version has double sized fonts for all the text and menus so that it will be useful for teaching and demonstrations in lecture theatres. When installing the software, SystemicsBIG can be installed using the custom installation.

7.13.2 FUNCTIONALITY of Systemics 1.0

1. Systemics 1.0 operates on Macintosh, PC and Linux computers, and the CD ROM contains complete documentation about how to use the software.
2. Systemics 1.0 converts word processing documents saved as text files into database files for storing the analysis.
3. The analysis is entered using pulldown menus containing the options for the pre-programmed systems.
4. Systemics 1.0 has the following Pages:
 - * Text Page displays the text as a sequence of numbered clauses. In this page, the generic structure and the speaker may be entered. The clauses are edited in this page, and these changes are reflected all other pages.
 - * Clause Page displays the analysis at the rank of word, word group and clause. Clause Page contains two tables: (i) the Clause Table to enter the functional label for each element in the clause, and (ii) the Analysis Table to code the nature of the selections made in the Clause Table.

* Interclausal Page displays the analysis for logical relations and exchange structure at the rank of clause complex, paragraph and text.

* Discourse Page displays the analysis for reference chains and lexical relations at the rank of paragraph and text.

* Search Page is used to extract the results of the analysis and functional elements to which labels have been attached.

* Grammar Page contains a glossary for the abbreviations used in the 'standard' grammar together with references for further reading. A condensed version of this glossary is reproduced in the "System Key Abbreviations and Glossary" in the documentation. The grammar may be modified by the user in the Grammar Page (see point 5 below)

5.The Grammar Page contains the facility whereby the user can modify existing options and systems in the 'standard' grammar. The user may save these changes in the existing grammar to be used with the current database file, or alternatively the changes may be saved in a separate grammar file which may be used later with other database files.

6.The grammar in Systemics 1.0 can be changed in multiple ways to suit the requirements of the user. These changes include:

- (a) Adding, deleting and editing the available options in the existing systems in the 'standard' functional grammar in the Clause, Interclausal and Discourse Pages.
- (b) Entering new systems in the Clause, Interclausal and Discourse Pages.
- (c) New systems appear as new rows in the existing tables in the Clause page, and as new interfaces accessed through menus in the Interclausal and Discourse Pages.

7.The database may be searched according to any criteria through which the analysis has been entered. The user may select how the results are displayed through a menu of options.

8.The pages in Systemics 1.0 can be printed to a file which may be previewed using Ghostview software. The appearance of the pages may be chosen using Print options. These include saving the files as ps or eps files. The files can be printed using a postscript printer.

7.13.3 2.COST

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7.13.5 4.FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT Systemics 1.0

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8.0 Call for Submissions

8.1 Aviation English: An Invitation

Submissions are invited for *Aviation English: Theory and Praxis*, a volume of articles, essays, and research reports addressing the use of English for purposes related to airplanes and flight. Aviation English is both a specialized use of language and a lingua franca. The term refers to technical, administrative, commercial, and educational uses of the English language in application within the airline industry and private and commercial fields of aviation. Aviation English also refers to the use of English as the international language of the air, variously referred to as AIRSPEAK, air traffic control – pilot phraseology, and pilot – tower communications.

This collection of readings is intended for those who make indirect or direct use of Aviation English and for whom it is of importance. The contents would be of interest to anyone associated with the broad range of disciplines and activities connected with the airplane and flight: air transport administrators and business professionals, flight instructors, aviation historians, aeronautical science educators, aeronautical and aerospace engineers, government and airline association officials, airport managers and technicians, aircraft maintenance personnel, air traffic controllers and their trainers, journalists, language researchers, linguists, culture and communication specialists, instructors of Aviation English and English for specific purposes, and pilots - private and commercial.

Send your 300 word abstract to Dr. Peter Ragan, Humanities Department, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 600 South Clyde Morris Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114, U.S.A. (e-mail: ragan@erau.edu).

9.0 Web sites and e-mail lists

9.1 Systemic web sites

9.1.1 The International Systemic Functional Linguistics Association:

<http://www.isfla.org>.

9.1.2 Mick O Donnell s systemic web site

This is a very up-to-date and comprehensive site of systemic links:

http://www.dai.ed.ac.uk/staff/personal_pages/micko/systemics.html

9.1.3 Network information is available from

<http://minerva.ling.mq.edu.au/Resources/Network/Network.html>

9.1.4 The ASFLA web site

<http://homepage.mac.com/asfla>

9.1.5 French SFL Association

<http://www.univ-brest.fr/erla/aflsf/>

9.1.6 The SFL New Researchers' Network

<http://www.univ-brest.fr/erla/systudy-sfl/index.html>

9.2 SFL New Researchers' Network

We are grateful to Cassily Charles for providing us with the following information about an important new development in networked research.

An informal international network has newly been established for new researchers in Systemic-functional Linguistics. The idea was originally to facilitate peer-to-peer networking, resource-sharing & support for European post-graduate students working with SFL, who often face challenges of isolation, lack of conference travel funding, and/or barriers to consulting established scholars. However, it has quickly become clear that the need for informal networking is neither restricted to post-graduate students nor Europe. The network is still growing very quickly, but already has members from Japan, Canada, United Arab Emirates, U.S.A., Malaysia, Australia and South Africa, as well as Sweden,

U.K., Denmark, Spain, France, Austria, Germany, Greece and Ireland. Members range from Masters students and post-doctorate researchers to language professionals and established scholars in other fields who are new to SFL. As well as people seeking a friendly place to ask questions, more experienced SFL researchers have taken a much appreciated interest in sharing experience and mentoring.

So far, the network is supported by an e-mail discussion list, systudy, and a web page (see below). Proposals for future activities of the network include:

Reporting on local conferences & seminars for distant members

Virtual data-discussion sessions

On-line conferencing

The first face-to-face meeting of network members, and all interested others, will be during ISFC 2002 in Liverpool. We will be meeting for an informal lunch on the first day of the conference, 12:40pm on Monday the 15th July, in Carnatic Hall, where the conference meals are served. Everyone who would like to join us is most welcome! (N.B. The lunch must be booked beforehand with the ISFC organisers.) Please contact Cassily Charles (cassily.charles@sbg.ac.at) or simply look for us there.

The credit and our thanks for all the work of setting up and administering the e-mail list, creating the web page and generally making everything work go to Lise Fontaine at the Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest. The web-page for the SFL New Researchers' Network is at: <http://www.univ-brest.fr/erla/systudy-sfl/index.html>. To subscribe to systudy, e-mail Lise Fontaine: lfontaine@teaser.fr.

9.3 Macquarie Linguistics news letter

<http://www.ling.mq.edu.au/newsletter/>

9.4 Corpus resource

This is a general corpus resource, which can be of great value to systemic functional research. Thanks to John Knox, Linguistics, Macquarie University, for providing this information.

The English Language Institute at the University of Michigan is pleased to announce that phase one of the Michigan Corpus of Academic Spoken English (MICASE) is now complete, and the corpus is available for research, pedagogic applications, and general interest at

<<http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/micase>>.

MICASE consists of approximately 1.7 million words from 152 speech events recorded at the University of Michigan between 1997 and 2001, covering a wide range of university spoken activities.

The database is made freely available through the above-mentioned website, which has a custom-designed search engine allowing for a variety of searches that take advantage of the detailed speaker and speech event attributes encoded in the corpus. The ELI is deeply grateful to the Digital Library Production Services of the University Library for their generous support of this project.

Further information about MICASE is also available through the ELI website, <www.lsa.umich.edu/eli/micase/micase.htm>, where we give background information, composition of the corpus in terms of percentages/words for major speaker and speech event categories, details about the transcription and markup scheme, and a list of MICASE-inspired presentations and publications.

Developments planned for the second phase of the project include tagging the corpus for part-of-speech, generating a word list of academic speech and related lexical statistics, posting selected soundfiles on the website, and the development of language teaching and testing materials, as well as continued research on grammatical, lexical, and discursual features of academic speech.

The MICASE team currently includes Rita Simpson (project director), John M. Swales (faculty advisor), and Sarah Briggs (testing advisor). General inquiries about the project can be directed to Rita <ritacsim@umich.edu> or John <jmswales@umich.edu>.

10.0 Local reports

10.1 John Bateman, The English Department at the University of Bremen: site and activities report

This is now my third year at Bremen, where my working group is slowly establishing itself and its identity. The group currently consists of Kerstin Fischer--conversational interaction and discourse connectives in spoken language, Guowen Yang--natural language generation of Chinese, and myself. Courses are offered within the English Department, but are also open to students from the Linguistics Department as well as, as appropriate, students from Computer Science and Media-Informatics. Many of the courses are directly built on systemic-functional linguistic approaches and basic knowledge such as transitivity, appraisal and textual organization (theme, cohesion, etc.) are regularly covered in the first 4 semesters. Every year there is one compulsory introduction to linguistics course for around 70 students, and this is also very strongly influenced by the systemic perspective.

The research profile of the working group is also progressing slowly but steadily. There are currently four PhD students working in systemic-related areas:

* Chrystalla Thoma: working on translation theory, applying notions of systemic analysis and register theory in the concrete case of the translation of folk tales from Cyprus into English.

* Brigitte Grote: working on a contrastive study of conjunctive relations and their relation to rhetorical organization and lexicogrammatical realization in German and English

* Guowen Yang: working on a systemic-functional grammar of Chinese, also implemented computationally, with particular attention to the treatment of aspect.

* Juan Rafael Zamarano: working on an extensive systemic-functional grammar of Spanish, implemented computationally, and investigated for its potential role in language teaching and providing reference grammars.

As 'services' relevant to the systemic community, we maintain the largest collection of computational systemic-functional grammars, containing grammars (of varying sizes) for, currently, English, German, Dutch, Czech, Russian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Spanish and French. These are accessible in the "Generation Bank" reachable from '<http://purl.org/net/kpml>'. There is also a considerable amount bibliographical information relevant for systemicists maintained at '<http://www.fb10.uni-bremen.de/anglistik/langpro/bibliographies/index.htm>'.

The degree programme at Bremen is the traditional German one of a Magister divided into a two year foundation phase and a two year further phase for more advanced courses. Students study English with either a further main subject or two further minor subjects. Within English they must study Literature and Social History in addition to Linguistics, but can set their own focus within the last 2 years so that study typically concentrate on one area rather than all three. Since the most usual expectation is still that studying English is Literature based, there are still relatively few students who take up Linguistics within English as their main area. We are trying to counterbalance this tendency by further consolidation across the linguistics offering of the faculty--i.e., including both the Linguistics Department proper (which is currently typology based) and the linguistics sections of the other modern language departments in a more cohesive structure. This will be facilitated by the gradual move away from the Magister type framework to a more modular organization reminiscent of programmes in Britain, the U.S. and elsewhere. There is also a parallel programme for training teachers of English, which follows the Magister structure with the addition of didactics and other practical components specifically for teacher training.

A number of larger research proposals are currently being prepared, in areas ranging from multimodal semiotics to human-robot interaction. Systemic, or systemically-inspired, approaches will play central roles in all of these.

Local reports

John Bateman

<http://www.uni-bremen.de/~bateman>