British Association for Applied Linguistics
B.A.A.L. / Cambridge University Press Seminar Programme
2013: The Multilingual University: Linguistic diversity in higher education in English-dominant and English Medium Instructional contexts

Friday 4th July 2014, 9.45am – 6.00pm
Languages in Education (LinE) Research Centre
Institute of Education, University of London

Guest speakers
Prof David Block, ICREA, University of Lleida
Prof Li Wei, Birkbeck, University of London
Joanna McPake, University of Strathclyde
Dr Siân Preece, Institute of Education, University of London

Discussant
Prof Angela Creese, University of Birmingham

The operation of universities in a global marketplace is impacting on the linguistic ecology of the higher education sector and contributing to rising numbers of bi/multilingual users of English in universities in English-dominant settings and in universities offering English Medium Instructional (EMI) in the non-Anglophone world. This one-day seminar provides an opportunity to discuss the phenomenon of linguistic diversity in these settings and to explore the notion of the ‘multilingual university’. The seminar aims to:

1. Bring together those with an interest in bi/multilingualism and linguistic diversity in the context of HE in English-dominant and EMI contexts;
2. Share knowledge about bi/multilingualism and linguistic diversity in the HE sector and develop the idea of the multilingual university;
3. Consider how research on bi/multilingualism can inform policy and practice and develop an agenda that impacts on the public good;
4. Launch a research network into bi/multilingualism in HE in English-dominant and EMI contexts.

The day will include guest speaker papers on emerging streams of work on bi/multilingualism in the sector, workshops on a variety of topics, such as transnational students & translanguaging, academic language & identity, the role of HE in language revitalisation and the spread of EMI into bilingual HE settings, and a discussant who will comment on the possible synergies between HE as a site of multilingualism and other educational settings. There will be plenty of time for discussion and sharing of ideas.

Registration for the seminar is £35, including tea, coffee and lunch. There are two bursaries for BAAL students on a first come first served basis. There will be an Indian buffet seminar dinner (costing an additional £12.95) in a restaurant close to the IOE following the conclusion of the seminar to which all seminar participants are invited.

Seminar participation is limited to 35 places. To register, please click on the following link: http://store.ioe.ac.uk/browse/product.asp?compid=1&modid=2&catid=92

Further details from Siân Preece, s.preece@ioe.ac.uk