BAAL LLT SIG Agenda 7 July 2009

Present: Richard Kiely, Peter Skehan, Gin Samuda, Nick Andon, Suzanne Graham, Gee Macrory, Ros Mitchell, Catherine Walter, Stella Bullo-Alos, Amy Wang

Apologies: Alessandro Benati, Mike Grenfell

Points for action.

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<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Person/s responsible</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Send annual report to the BAAL EC by July 15th</td>
<td>MB</td>
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<td>2.2</td>
<td>To contact John Field to ask about the vetting process for the SIG track papers.</td>
<td>MB</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
<td>Send follow-up email to organisers of other LLT events.</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
<td>Discuss possible tension between BAAL/CUP and related SIGs at BAAL EC</td>
<td>CW</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Compile financial statement, including information from Greenwich conference. This was due on 15th June.</td>
<td>RK, AB</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Liaise with regard to generating the financial statement for the 2009-10 activity.</td>
<td>GM &amp; RK</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Contact MG with regard to UKPOLLS’ end of term of office.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Contact KCL team to find out new member of SIG committee</td>
<td>EM</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Include in the Convenor’s annual report the new position on SIG committee of a link person to CLIE &amp; copy this to the BAAL EC chair; CW will ensure there is discussion of this at CLIE.</td>
<td>MB &amp; CW</td>
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<td>5.2</td>
<td>Contact colleagues at Aston to pursue the interest they expressed in May in hosting the 2011 conference.</td>
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<td>Open up future opportunities to host annual SIG conference via the SIG email list and BAALmail.</td>
<td>EM</td>
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<td>6.2</td>
<td>Contact BAAL EC regarding the possibility of BAAL giving some financial support to SIGs which</td>
<td>MB &amp; RK</td>
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have increased the membership of BAAL

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<td>6.3</td>
<td>Send report to BAAL News, ideally in time for next deadline for submissions</td>
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<td>6.4</td>
<td>Send conference organisers’ pack to BAAL web editor</td>
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1 Approval of minutes of the last meeting
It was noted that the minutes should be amended to include apologies from CW. No other amendments.

1.1 Matters arising from Minutes of last meeting
CW welcomed the cut-off point for registration being a few weeks before the actual conference.
There was a suggestion that start time for the conference could be later than 10am to allow travel that morning and just one night’s accommodation.
MB thanked GM for hosting this year’s conference & noted that an active community is clearly beginning to emerge.

2 Convenor’s report
2.1 Convenor’s term of office
MB’s term of office is coming to an end. MB is standing down as SIG convenor due to commitments as President of AILA. He will write the report for the BAAL EC due on 16th July.

2.2 SIG track at BAAL 2009
MB reported that the SIG has annual opportunity to have a track of papers at the BAAL annual conference, or a symposium of papers. This year, MB and EM vetted the papers with one member of the local organising committee, and a full track of papers has been selected. MB would like to be more informed about the weighting in the vetting procedures. ACTION: MB will contact John Field (BAAL SIG Co-Ordinator) to ask about this process.
MB reported that John Field is happy with the level of the LLT SIG’s activities.

2.3 Liaising with organisers of other LLT conferences
Members of the committee are aware of other activity within LLT area e.g. Oxford, East Anglia, Sheffield, Edinburgh, an annual conference at Canterbury, amongst others. MB applauded such activity. MB & EM wrote to the organising committees to encourage more liaison e.g. to improve co-ordination of the timing and content of events, to reach a wider audience, increase the breadth of interests, and strengthen the LLT community voice. ACTION: MB will send follow-up email.

EM asked whether the rule that SIGs were not entitled to seek CUP funding could be acting as a disincentive to affiliating with SIGs. ACTION: CW will communicate this issue to the BAAL EC. One suggestion was that
BAAL/CUP proposal should show, as one criterion for approval, that they have communicated with a relevant SIG/s, where appropriate, on matters such as content and timing.

RFM suggested that the RAE may have promoted a tendency to badge events as institutional, rather than SIG-related, as they can be regarded as an esteem indicator. It was noted that the SIG can be mindful of this, offering a supporting, not threatening, role.

3 Treasurer’s report
RK provided a verbal report, noting that the Greenwich conference was run through the Greenwich Conference Office. The SIG needs confirmation from Alessandro Benati that the conference broke even, so that the Annual SIG report can be sent to BAAL reporting no liability from BAAL for losses.

ACTION: RK to contact AB, Richard Badger and John Field.

ACTION: RK and GM will liaise to generate a financial statement for the MMU conference in time for next year’s report.

4 New committee members
Several members came to the end of their term of office.
Convenor
Suzanne Graham will be Convenor for the term 2009-11. The meeting thanked Suzanne for taking on this role.

Ordinary Member
GS’s term of office as an ordinary member has ended. GS will stand down because she won’t be available for next year’s SIG conference. Catherine Walter will replace Gin for the term 2009-11.
CW will fill a new position on the SIG committee as “Rep for the Committee for Linguistics in Education”, a joint committee between the Linguistics Association of Great Britain and BAAL. The person filling this role will have a remit for liaising between the SIG and CLIE, acting as a contact point for SIG members who wish to respond to a public consultation relating to language in education, or inform policy in other ways, on behalf of BAAL.

UKPOLLS Co-Opted Member
Mike Grenfell’s term of office has come to an end. ACTION: MB will contact Mike Grenfell about this. Given that SG is a member of UKPOLLS, SG will act as the UKPOLLS’s SIG rep.

Member of the Conference Organising Committee
A member of the organising committee for the 2010 conference in KCL will join the committee, for the term 2009-11. ACTION: EM to find out who will be their point of contact.

Treasurer
RK (Treasurer) will continue for another term of office (2009-11).

Other members of the committee:
GM (Former Conference organiser), AB (Ordinary member), EM (Communications Officer) will continue for the next year until their term of office ends (2010).

5 Future events

5.1 Hosts for SIG 2010
A team at Kings College London will host the 2010 conference. Lourdes Ortega, David Block, and Peter Skehan have accepted invitations to be plenary speakers. The theme will bring together socio-cultural and cognitive perspectives on language learning, and will be held at the same time in July as the 2009 conference.

5.2 Host for SIG conference 2011
MB reported that Aston University have already expressed some interest.
**ACTION:** MB will pursue this expression of interest.
It was noted that AILA, in the last full week of August, will not clash with the SIG conference.
Other expressions of interest were received from CW at Oxford, and RK at Bristol. Discussion arose about geographical location e.g. Scotland, Wales, N. Ireland.
**ACTION:** After MB has followed up the Aston interest, EM will approaching all SIG and BAAL members in Autumn to see if there is interest in hosting.

6 AOB

6.1 Contributing to language education policy.
There was discussion about whether a group could be created to develop statements on public policy in relation to language education. CW noted that this is one role of the Committee for Linguistics in Education, a joint committee of LAGB and BAAL. For example, they have submitted a response to the National Curriculum review. It has representatives from a range of professional associations.
MB suggested that we could put forward issues to CLIE. CW welcomed this.
EM suggested that there be a special role on the LLT SIG committee for someone who is also a member of the CLIE committee, and visa versa.
**ACTION:** MB will include this in his report to BAAL, and copy this to the BAAL EC chair; and CW will ensure there is discussion of this at BAAL and CLIE.

6.2 One day SIG events
MB noted that members of the SIG have expressed interest in research methods one day conference.
RM would like to organise a one day annual event relating to PMFL over the next few years, associated with LINC’s. She envisaged a smallish low cost event with 20-30 participants. GM expressed interest in being involved, possibly integrating it with an MMU event. It was AGREED that the SIG would provide support where possible such as helping with publicity.

RK noted that SIGs have increased BAAL membership and that BAAL does not support SIGs financially **ACTION:** MB & RK: to contact BAAL EC
6.3 Report to BAAL news
ACTION: GM to provide a report of the conference to BAAL news.
Gee will look at

6.4 Conference organisers’ pack on web
ACTION: GS will send the documentation she and MB developed for organising a SIG conference to Valerie Hobbs for her to upload to the LLT SIG BAAL webpage.

6.5 EM expressed thanks to MB for his work as Convenor.

MB thanked the SIG Committee for raising awareness of LLT work within BAAL.