



BAAL AGM

Thursday 24th August, 5:30-6:30pm

BAAL Annual General Meeting

SLB/118, Spring Lane Building, University of York and Zoom (<https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/94242641064>)

Contents

Chair's Report.....	2
Secretary's Report	8
Treasurer's Report.....	9
Media Coordinator's Report	10
Meetings Secretary's Report.....	11
Membership Secretary's Report	12
Newsletter Editor's Report	13
Postgraduate Liaison and Development Officer's Report	14
Publications Secretary's Report	14
Seminars Coordinator's Report.....	16
SIG Coordinator's Report	18
Web Editor's Report	20
CLiE Representative's Report	23

Chair's Report

In my second year as Chair of BAAL, I continue developing and supporting initiatives in line with the BAAL priorities, engaging with the BAAL membership through the 55th Anniversary Survey in particular, overseeing and supporting various strands of BAAL activities, representing BAAL in affiliate meetings and developing new collaborations and supporting AILA-related activities.

BAAL priorities

We have previously identified the following BAAL priority areas. These are:

1. Multilingual representation
2. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
3. Support and recover from the pandemic
4. Engage with and influence UK government and HE policies
5. Develop an international outlook

I continue to oversee the initiatives and actions related to our strategic priorities with the support of the EC. Many thanks to the EC members and BAAL members and supporters who led and contributed to these initiatives.

Examples include:

- The BAAL solidarity membership (2,3, 5)
- A new category of First Book in the BAAL Book Prize (2)
- Closely engage with AILA and AILA-Europe network (5).
- Supporting the discussion about putting a bid for AILA World Congress 2030 (5)
- Working with the BAAL Annual Conference local organising committees on offering the live streaming option open for all BAAL members, mentoring opportunities and *sustainability* (2, 3)
- Taking a proactive role in the QAA Benchmarking statements consultation to ensure the representation of Applied Linguistics (4)
- A webinar on REF for Linguistics (4)
- Automatic translation function added to BAAL landing page (1)
- New section in the Newsletter, Multilingualism in Focus (1)
- Additional funding for two PGR conference awards for lightening talks and posters (3)
- Increased funding for BAAL/CUP seminars (3)

- Streamlining the process of managing various recordings on BAAL YouTube channel and BAAL membership (3)

We will continue to refine the priority areas through a close analysis of the BAAL Anniversary Big Survey results.

Member engagement and support

BAAL 55th Anniversary Big Survey

The survey was successfully completed. We have received 141 responses. A draft analysis of the results will be presented at the AGM. Members' responses will feed back into BAAL planning and priorities and to generate a bigger picture of applied linguistics of our time.

BAAL response to the UCU industrial action

We have systematised our response to the UCU industrial action and developed a BAAL statement on BAAL's position on strike actions. The announcement was posted at the end of January, 2023, to the BAAL mailing list, on the BAAL website (<https://www.baal.org.uk/news/>) and BAAL social media.

Examples of actions we have taken in line with the statement are:

- Clarified the BAAL Social Media approach, i.e., not posting on strike days including "outside hours".
- Extended the deadline for the papers deadline for BAAL2023 and applications to BAAL-CUP seminars.

Influence and engagement with UK government and HE policies

QAA Benchmark Statement Consultation briefing

We have been proactive in working with QAA and the Panel members to develop statements that reflect the relevance and vitality of Applied Linguistics. This took the form of an invitation to all members, an open webinar and detailed follow-up feedback on the revised Linguistics Subject Benchmark Statement to ensure a balanced representation of applied linguistics.

REF for Linguistics

Together with LAGB and PhilSoc, BAAL organised a briefing session on REF for linguistics on 18 November, 2022. The event featured four REF 2021 panel members who participated in

the sub-panels for Education, Modern Languages & Linguistics, and English Language & Literature: Professors Debra Myhill, Charles Forsdick, Elena Semino, and Susan Hunston.

REF2028 Consultation

Had an initial conversation with LAGB and Philsoc about hosting a webinar to discuss the implications of proposed changes as part of REF 2028 consultation. Details to be confirmed.

New collaborations

Networking meeting with the English Association, University English and the Institute of English Studies.

I attended a networking meeting with the above associations in May, 2023. The purposes of the meeting were sharing current priorities and concerns; sharing new initiatives and new examples of good practice; discussing any potential shared projects; and discussing establishing a more connected network of learned societies in English. It was attended by representatives from 15-20 learned societies. We shall watch out and seek to engage with this network in the future.

Arts and Humanities Alliance (AHA, <https://www.artsandhumanitiesalliance.org/>)

We have agreed to become an affiliate of the above advocacy organization for the Arts and Humanities which is co-chaired by Emma Cayley and Thea Pitman (Leeds). There is no cost to become an affiliate. They host meetings twice a year via Zoom and coordinate action to defend departments under threat of closure or forced redundancies as and when required. They currently have about 50 affiliates including most of the other linguistics associations in the UK.

Endorsement

ATLAS –Think Language First manifesto (<https://blogs.gre.ac.uk/atlas/manifesto>) authored by an international team of linguists (ATLAS) seeking support from learned societies to support children with language needs.

Manifesto for linguistics in language teaching (<https://linguisticsinmfl.co.uk/a-manifesto-for-linguistics-in-language-teaching-in-the-uk-context/>): how linguistics could be incorporated into language teaching in the UK context.

Updates from BAAL Affiliates

AcSS (Academy for Social Sciences, UK)

Four applied linguists were conferred AcSS fellows. We issued a press release jointly with UKALTA. The new fellows are: Professor Anthony Liddicoat (University of Warwick, nominated by BAAL); Professor Anthony Green (University of Bedfordshire); Bernardette Holmes (MBE, Independent language education strategy and policy advisor and practitioner) and Professor Diana Slade (The Australian National University).

BAAL and UKALTA will continue to collaborate closely on these matters in the future, as the only two AcSS-affiliated organisations specialising in applied linguistics.

Updates on the partnership between AcSS with the ESRC on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

- Dr Lizzy Noman-Sargent was appointed as EDI Programme Manager under the AcSS ESRC EDI Partnership.
- AcSS/ESRC EDI funding. AcSS, in partnership with ESRC has put out a call for a small-scale grant funding of between £5,000 and £25,000 to support member learned societies to deliver EDI initiatives and intervention.
- The EDI resources website soft launch in August. I provided some feedback to the website. The BAAL EDI statement is used as an example along with several other organisations. The website address is: <https://acss.org.uk/esrc-project-equality-diversity-inclusion/>

AILA (International Association of Applied Linguistics)

A BAAL and AILA reps meeting was held in Feb 2023. Caroline and I attended the meeting and reported BAAL's activities and priorities.

I attended the AILA EBIC meeting in Lyon in July.

Some changes to the AILA by-laws were discussed in the meeting. The newly formed JEDI committee (Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) has been given the mandate to examine practices and policies for inclusivity and access in AILA matters. Alex Leung has agreed to represent BAAL on the committee.

The role of the AILA Congress Coordinator is to be made a member of the EB and a member of the IACC (International AILA Congress Committee) which currently includes the Secretary General, the Vice President, the Past President and the Congress Coordinator.

I have made a request to the committee to revisit practices that have been in place pre-Covid, for example, the requirement of the whole EC on-site visit to the conference venue.

Of interest to BAAL members are:

- Richard Smith (Convenor of AILA ReN History of Language Teaching) at Warwick University was invited by the AILA president to lead an AILA archive project to trace the founders of the Association and others who played a key role in AILA's early days to mark the AILA 60th Anniversary.
- The AILA finance is very healthy. They are able to set aside Euro 50,000 for Solidarity Awards this year and possibly next year (The Lyon congress also committed the congress surplus to the Solidarity Awards next year).
- Some new ReNs: English as a medium of education, multilingualism and the SDGS by Kyria Finardi, Marina Orsini-Jones and Azirah Binti Hashim; ELF in Education by Alessia Cogo et al; Open Scholarship in applied linguistics by Meng Liu and Sin Wang Chong.
- Mexico is to host the AILA World Congress lab 2025.

AILA Europe

I attended AILA Europe network meeting in person during the AILA World Congress Lyon.

JRM (Junior Researchers Meeting): The AILA2023 hosted the 2023 JRM. Greek Association has agreed to host the next Junior Researchers' Meeting 2024. Details are to confirmed.

Collaboration with EuJAL (European Journal of Applied Linguistics) and JRM:

- A special issue has been published in EUJAL, based on the JRM 2020-21 issue guest edited by Aleksandra Gnach & Grégory Miras on the theme of the Special Issue: New Generation of Applied Linguists in Europe (<https://www.degruyter.com/journal/key/eujal/10/2/html>). It features an article by Betül Seda Battilani with the title of '*Translanguaging, co-learning, and participatory investment in multilingual workplaces*', which was selected through an open call to the BAAL doctoral members.
- A new special issue based on JRM 2022 (BAAL annual conference at Belfast) and 2023 (Lyon) has been commissioned by the EuJAL. It will be guest edited by Sin Wang and Grégory Miras.

British Academy

A number of reports and policy briefings:

'SHAPE Skills at Work', to showcase how Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts for People and the Economy/Environment (SHAPE) skills are utilised across the economy, and the careers and successes of a broad collection of SHAPE graduates.

Languages Provision in UK Further Education. This report was commissioned by the British Academy and conducted by researchers from Queen's University Belfast, examines the extent of the provision and uptake of languages in the FE sector in the UK, determining trends in that provision over the past 20 years.

English Studies Provision in UK Higher Education as part of the BA flagship 'State of the Disciplines' series. The report is designed to serve as an evidence base to be used by and empower the English Studies and wider SHAPE community.

The policy briefing Understanding SHAPE in R&D: Bridging the Evidence Gap. The evidence collated in this document, covered in more detail in accompanying reports from Frontier Economics and RAND Europe, highlights the central role of SHAPE disciplines to the UK's strengths in science, technology, finance and innovation.

BA Early Career Researcher Network update. Following a successful pilot, the Wolfson Foundation has agreed to continue funding the British Academy Early Career Researcher Network for a further three years.. The network provides ECRs with a space where they can develop their confidence, collaborate with others, and feel a sense of collegiality which is imperative in academia – a field that can be quite precarious. Over the next few years, the Academy will be rolling out the network nationally and the ambition is for the network to be seen as the sectoral vehicle that aids in bridging the gap between ECRs who have security and funding and those who do not, as well as enabling all ECRs to develop their skills and explore opportunities.

EDI Caucus. The new EDI Caucus, EDICa, is funded by UKRI and the British Academy to accelerate equity across the research and innovation ecosystem. The project is Led by Professor Kate Sang (Heriot Watt University). More here: <https://www.ukri.org/news/ukri-and-the-british-academy-fund-edi-network-to-boost-ri-in-uk/>.

Connected Knowledge. BA launched a communications campaign, aiming to showcase the impact of SHAPE research and insights, especially when combined with those of STEM.

Other affiliates reports are provided by the relevant EC representatives.

Zhu Hua, August 2023

Secretary's Report

Over the past twelve months I have dealt with various routine secretarial tasks/queries to BAAL (as per the job description):

- Welcomed new EC members and organised regular BAAL EC meetings
- Checked the minutes and action points from each BAAL EC meeting
- Sent regular updates on our activities to the AcSS for their monthly eBulletins
- Reviewed four books for the annual BAAL book prize
- Coordinated the annual AGM meeting (and notified the membership of this)
- Requested that all members of the EC update their terms of reference in preparation for the upcoming elections (this is required on an annual basis)
- Advertised EC vacancies and solicited nominations – elections to be held at the BAAL AGM
- Informed the Charity Commission and uploaded the new BAAL constitution to the website
- Continued to follow up on the possibility of BAAL's involvement in AILA World Congress 2030
- Helped to drive the EC's development of equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives
- Acted as a point of contact for a range of EC-related questions and queries raised by EC members and general BAAL membership
- Supported the Chair in making various other decisions and carrying out actions.

BAAL Annual General Meeting 2023: There are 2 Ordinary Member posts coming up for election in September. The following officer posts are also available:

- Treasurer
- Postgraduate liaison and development coordinator

All of the posts have been publicised to the BAAL membership with expressions of interest being sought (see <https://www.baal.org.uk/documents/> for role descriptions). The election will be held at the BAAL AGM. Those officers who have only served one term are permitted to be elected to a second term, if desired (see <https://www.baal.org.uk/committee/> for information on the current committee).

Thank you: I would like to say a big thank you to the officers and ordinary members for the hard work and commitment to BAAL during their time on the EC, as well as to Sophie Flood, Katie Worman and colleagues at Mosaic for their administrative support.

Caroline Tagg, August 2023

Treasurer's Report

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

	2023		2022
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Membership Subscription		47,512	53,330
Bank interest		124	4
Book Prize Entries		720	640
Annual Conference Income		4,868	-
Miscellaneous Income		-	100
Donations		50	7
Annual Conference Sponsorship		-	1,500
Seminars		-	1,913
		<u>53,274</u>	<u>57,494</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Grants to SIGs	23		200
Book / Poster/visual rep./ prizes	50		321
Linguistics Olympiad	-		1,000
BAAL Scholarship	4,022		-
Applying Linguistic Fund	4,352		3,853
Net Expenditure - Special Interest groups	1,110		330
Mosaic Events - Fees & Expenses	14,332		14,591
Exec. Committee Meetings & Accom. expenses	4,952		318
AILA/UCML/CLIE & OTHERS - Subscriptions	5,229		814
CUP/BAAL/ESOL/Routledge -Seminars	2,621		-
Insurance	709		689
Bank Direct <u>Debit, collect</u> & Service Charges	77		1,026
Conference expenses	408		375
Postage, Publication & Printing Costs	4		9
Accountant's Fees	975		875
Sundry expenses	525		734
		<u>39,389</u>	<u>25,135</u>
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>13,885</u>	<u>32,359</u>

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS

BALANCE SHEET

31 MAY 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Funds with SIGs and Float with York Uni		30,804		26,914
Bank deposits		57,861		80,683
Cash at bank		155,363		122,446
		<u>244,028</u>		<u>230,043</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accrued expenses		975		875
NET CURRENT ASSETS			243,053	229,168
NET ASSETS			243,053	<u>229,168</u>
FINANCED BY:				
CAPITAL ACCOUNT				
Balance brought forward			229,168	196,809
Net surplus for the year			13,885	32,359
Balance carried forward			<u>243,053</u>	<u>229,168</u>

Bettina Beinhoff, August 2023

Media Coordinator's Report

This has been my second year as Media Coordinator, and I have thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to support BAAL's outreach and engagement via social media.

The BAAL Twitter account has risen from 8093 followers (August 2022) to 9091 (August 2023). The main BAAL Twitter account continues to promote details of the annual conferences and BAAL-related events and activities. This includes BAAL-related book publications, the BAAL book prize, PGR events, and SIG activities.

The @__BAAL handle is regularly included in tweets by both individuals and organisations to publicise non-BAAL related events and announcements, and we retweet appropriate content/subject-matter. Looking forwards, we wish to make greater use of other social media platforms, and create a stronger connection between these and the BAAL website. This will start with greater use of the private BAAL YouTube channel, which will host recordings and other relevant content for access by BAAL members.

As a member of the BAAL Executive Committee, I have also attended the AMLUK meetings as a BAAL representative.

There has been no interaction with external news media companies or institutions so far in 2023.

Mel Evans, August 2023

Meetings Secretary's Report

1. BAAL2023

Preparations are going well for BAAL2023 at University of York. Zoe Handley and the local team have been in touch with the EC regularly and we are on track for a surplus.

2. BAAL2024

The University of Essex team led by Tracey Costley and Nancy Kula are on track to host BAAL2024. I am waiting for a document about how they addressed EDI issues relating to the final choices for their plenary speakers. Tracey was in touch recently and may meet either Gee Macrory or myself before the EC meeting.

3. BAAL2025

A team from the University of Glasgow have agreed to host BAAL2025.

4. Future events

I need to open a call for hosts for BAAL2026 in May 2024. We can reflect on any changes needed and ideas about formats ready for a discussion in the January meeting.

Glenn Hadikin, August 2023

Membership Secretary's Report

A very warm welcome to all the new members who have joined BAAL over the course of 2022-23 and to all existing colleagues who have renewed their membership!

The membership of BAAL has grown steadily in recent years and the total membership of BAAL in July 2023 stood at 1,355. We remain indebted to the team at Mosaic for their continued high-quality support of the BAAL Executive Committee and membership.

In July 2023, BAAL had a total of 672 full-rate individual members and 400 reduced-rate members (i.e. members who are students or are unwaged), a total of 1,072 individuals. There were also 11 individuals nominated under a total of 6 Associate memberships and 209 individuals nominated under a total of 47 Institutional memberships. There were also 10 members in our newest category of 'solidarity' membership.

The solidarity membership category was established in response to feedback from members at the 2022 BAAL conference AGM. At the January meeting of the Executive Committee, the following criteria were agreed, and a pilot scheme to recruit 10 members to the new category was launched via BAALmail, LinguistList and social media in January/February 2023:

- Residency in a low- or lower-middle income country, as defined by the [World Bank](#)
- Refugee or Asylum Seeker status, anywhere in the world
- Currently without an institutional affiliation
- Currently registered as a postgraduate student on a full-time applied linguistics programme, anywhere in the world
- Currently employed on a fixed-term contract of 12 months or less, anywhere in the world

21 applications for fee-free membership were received. A panel consisting of the Chair, Secretary, Membership Secretary and two Ordinary Members reviewed the applications against the criteria and selected 10 for award. The 10 new members are from: India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Algeria, Nigeria, Iran, Ukraine and Sri Lanka. Four are on fixed-term contracts, three are students, one has no institutional affiliation, and one is a refugee. The pilot project was reviewed at the May meeting of the BAAL Executive Committee, and it was agreed that the project had achieved its aims to diversify our membership and that we would run the project again next year. A process now needs to be set up to follow up on the invitation sent to the successful applicants to reflect on the benefits of BAAL membership.

BAAL is keen to keep expanding its membership base and to further strengthen its voice. So, if you know of a colleague or student who is not yet a member of BAAL, please encourage them to visit the website and sign up at: <https://www.baal.org.uk/join/>. Our online

application form and payment system are integrated on one webpage, making it simple for applied linguists from across the globe to join us. All memberships run for a period of 12 months, with a membership term of January to December. Members who are not resident in the UK are very welcome to join BAAL.

If your institution has yet to join BAAL, why not consider an Institutional membership? The annual subscription for Institutional membership of BAAL is £120 and allows for four individuals from the institution to be nominated as full members. Individual membership subscription is priced at £50 per annum (£20 for full-time students or retired/unwaged members), so Institutional membership represents a 40% discount for each nominated institutional member.

When you join BAAL, you get full access to:

- [Special interest Groups](#)
- Seminars in association with Cambridge University Press, with discounted registration
- BAALmail, our membership mailing list
- Special publisher discounts on a range of books and journals, sent via BAALmail
- Our bi-annual BAAL newsletter
- Membership of [AILA](#), the International Association of Applied Linguistics, including a discount for the triennial AILA World Congress
- Opportunities to apply for funding for projects and to host events, such as the BAAL Applying Linguistics Fund and the BAAL/CUP Applied Linguistics Seminar Fund
- A discounted fee for our annual conference (usually held in September)

BAAL is always looking at new ways to support its members, so please feel free to get in touch with me (r.wicaksono@yorksj.ac.uk) if I can be of assistance. Thank you for supporting BAAL and we hope you enjoy your membership.

Rachel Wicaksono, August 2023

Newsletter Editor's Report

To follow.

Postgraduate Liaison and Development Officer's Report

PG/ECR Facebook group - the membership of the PG and ECR Facebook group continues to grow. We have 2,328 members as of 26th July, 2023. I regularly promote Twitter events, the BAAL Researcher Development Workshops, and upcoming calls for papers.

If any EC members have any information they would like posted in the group, please don't hesitate to contact me. Alternatively, you may join and promote events yourselves. The group can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/40190066151/>.

PGR/ECR events for BAAL 2023 - events planned for BAAL 2023 include a talk by Alison Phipps and a PGR symposium in which there has been great interest.

Additional prizes have been allocated by BAAL for *Best PGR Poster* and due to the different presentation formats, for this year only, the **Richard Pemberton** prize will include three prizes for *best PGR presentation*, of £50, £30 and £20 in the 30-minute, 20-minute and 3-minute presentations. I have shortlisted presentations from each and will ask the EC members to help with reviewing.

If you have any suggestions for future PGR/ECR events, please get in touch.

Angie Baily, August 2023

Publications Secretary's Report

It is my pleasure to write my second AGM report as the Publications Secretary of BAAL. My main tasks in this year's work cycle involved enhancing the transparency, inclusivity, and diversity of the book prize, coordinating the book prize review and book prize event at the annual conference, liaising with and maintaining a good working relationship with affiliated publishers. I was also involved in discussions around EDI matters and have acted as BAAL's representative at AILA's newly formed Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee. Below I summarise the key elements of my work this year.

1. Enhancing transparency, inclusivity, and diversity of the book prize

Upon consultation with affiliated publishers and the EC, we have attempted to enhance the transparency, inclusivity, and diversity of the book prize by 1) publishing the evaluation criteria publicly on the BAAL book prize website, 2) introducing measures to encourage submissions from non-mainstream publishers and publishers based outside the UK, 3) encouraging publishers to consider nominating early career researchers/ first book authors

by guaranteeing the inclusion of at least one title from the “first-book” category in the shortlist, 4) formalising the involvement of non-EC, experienced, BAAL members in the first-round review. Details about the above can be found in our book prize website:

<https://www.baal.org.uk/what-we-do/book-prize/>

We wish to continue to encourage BAAL members to volunteer their service to support future book prize reviewing. Details will be shared via BAAL’s Mailing List in due course.

2. BAAL Book Prize 2023

We received 21 nominations from 5 different publishers for this year’s book prize. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the publishers’ continuous support for our book prize (and other BAAL activities and initiatives). Thanks also go to EC members and external colleagues who contributed to the reviewing process.

The six titles that have been shortlisted are listed below:

Gender Diversity and Sexuality in English Language Education: New Transnational Voices by Darío Luis Banegas and Navan Govender (eds.) – Bloomsbury

Mobile-Assisted Language Learning: Concepts, Contexts and Challenges by Glenn Stockwell – Cambridge University Press

Antisocial Language Teaching: English and the Pervasive Pathology of Whiteness by JPB Gerald - Multilingual Matters (1st book)

Standards, Stigma, Surveillance: Raciolinguistic Ideologies and England’s Schools by Ian Cushing – Palgrave Macmillan

The Inner World of Gatekeeping in Scholarly Publication by Pejman Habibie & Anna Kristina Hultgren (eds.) – Palgrave Macmillan

Implicit and Explicit Language Attitudes: Mapping Linguistic Prejudice and Attitude Change in England by Robert M. McKenzie, Andrew McNeill – Routledge

The runner-up and winner will be announced at the book prize event at the annual conference to be held in the University of York in Aug 2023. I wish to express my thanks for the cooperation of the local organising committee in facilitating the event.

3. Representing BAAL at the newly formed AILA Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) committee

In addition to our continued commitment to EDI matters and initiatives (e.g. having a rolling agenda item at our EC meetings, dedicated Special Interest Groups), we have been invited by AILA to sit on the newly formed JEDI committee, formerly Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access (DEIA) committee. On behalf of the EC, I attended an initial scoping meeting on the 5th of April 2023 along with representatives from AILA and a few counterpart learned societies. At the meeting we shared notes on efforts and initiatives around EDI matters in our respective organisations. We also agreed to adopt the name, JEDI, which is a common acronym for similar committees, especially in the American context. The committee has been formally rectified in the recent AILA meeting at Lyon. I will continue to feedback to the EC as well as BAAL's membership of activities that the committee undertake.

That concludes my report for this year. I look forward to continue interacting with the BAAL community in the upcoming year. If you have questions about activities I have been involved in as the Publications Secretary, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alex Ho-Cheong Leung, August 2023

Seminars Coordinator's Report

In the 2022-23 academic year, BAAL has continued to support the development of our field through its seminars (co-funded with Cambridge University Press) and workshops. This brief report will summarize the events that have taken place in the current academic year, and it will also indicate upcoming activities.

Two seminar proposals have been successful in the last calls for funding. The reviewers were positively impressed with the quality of the proposals and unanimously recommended that these proposals should be funded.

- “Developing researcher reflexivity for Applied Linguistics”, organized by Dr Sal Consoli (University of Edinburgh), at the University of Edinburgh on 19 May 2023 (Friday);
- “Language and onward migration: Bridging applied linguistics with migration studies”, to be organized by Petros Karatsareas (University of Westminster), Vally Lytra (Goldsmiths, University of London) and Adriana Patiño-Santos (University of Southampton), at the University of Westminster on a date to be confirmed.

BAAL has also agreed to support an excellent workshop proposal in the 2022-23 academic year as indicated below. This activity took place under the BAAL Researcher Development Workshops, which are specifically (but not exclusively) aimed at doctoral students' and early-career researchers' development. No registration fee is charged for these workshops, thus being yet another benefit of being a BAAL member.

- “Thinking critically about ‘impact’: A workshop for PhD students and ECRs in (critical) applied linguistics”, organized by Peter Browning (University of Birmingham) and Katy Hight (University of the West of Scotland), at the University of Birmingham on 22 May 2023.

New calls for seminar and workshop proposals will soon be launched with an increased amount of funding for the 2023-24 academic year as detailed below. While the grants have a maximum amount each, applications for lower amounts are equally welcomed.

- BAAL / Cambridge University Press Seminars
 - a. Two £2,000 grants (one paid by BAAL and another paid by Cambridge University Press)
 - b. One repayable float of £1,000 (supported by BAAL)
- BAAL Researcher Development Workshops
 - a. Two £1,500 grants

I would encourage all BAAL members to consider making an application for these opportunities. I am also very happy to clarify any questions that colleagues may have on the calls and/or their proposals ahead of the submission deadline. To do so, please contact me by e-mail (vander.viana@ed.ac.uk).

All these events have been supported by numerous colleagues, and I would like to thank:

- Cambridge University Press, which has agreed to continue to support our joint seminar series;
- my fellow BAAL EC members, who have reviewed submissions and represented BAAL at this year's seminars;
- seminar and workshop organizers, who have carefully worked in the design and implementation of the events;
- attendees, who have participated so enthusiastically in this year's events.

Vander Viana, August 2023

SIG Coordinator's Report

Special Interest Groups continue to make an important contribution to BAAL's activities and identity. Current active BAAL SIGs are:

- Corpus Linguistics
- Health and Science Communication
- Intercultural Communication
- Language and New Media
- Language, Gender and Sexuality
- Language in Africa
- Language, Learning and Teaching
- Language Policy
- Linguistic Ethnography Forum
- LKALE (Linguistics and Knowledge about Language in Education)
- PAWBL (Professional, Academic and Work-Based Literacies)
- Testing, Evaluation and Assessment
- Vocabulary
- Multilingualism
- Research Synthesis in Applied Linguistics
- Language and Education for Social Justice (established in 2023)
- Language, Race and Ethnicity (established in 2023)

Annual financial audits have been received from each of the SIGs and annual reports are due this month.

This is the first year after all Covid restrictions have been lifted. Most SIGs have resumed their face-to-face activities whilst others have continued with online or hybrid formats.

SIG events

In the 2022-2023 academic year, the following SIG events took place:

Language and New Media

The Anti-Social Network

16 September 2022 - Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics

New Dialogues and Frontiers

June 29 - 30, 2023 (1.5 Day) - University of Edinburgh

Research Synthesis in Applied Linguistics

Inaugural event

21 October 2022 - *Online*

Testing, Evaluation and Assessment

Annual conference

23 June 2023 - Cardiff University

LKALE

Developing explicit literacy and oracy skills

18th-19th May 2023 - Cardiff University

Vocabulary

Annual Conference

26th & 27th June 2023 - Nottingham Trent University

PAWBL

Online reading event

6 March 2023 – online

Language policy

The 2023 iteration of the Language Policy Forum

15th-16th June 2023 - SOAS University of London

Online reading group – 2 sessions in 2023

Linguistic Ethnography Forum

9th Explorations in Ethnography, Language and Communication Conference

3-4 April 2023 – UCL's Institute of Education

Please see the BAAL newsletter and SIG websites for reports on these events.

BAAL Annual Meeting 2023

The BAAL annual meeting for 2023 (organized and hosted by University of York) is scheduled to take place in person on 24 August 2023. Face-to-face SIG talks and a SIG convenors' meeting will resume at the annual meeting.

Two new SIGs – ***Language and Education for Social Justice*** and ***Language, Race and Ethnicity*** – were set up this year. BAAL will review the SIGs' development and activities in one year.

Two further SIG proposals are currently under development. They will be reviewed in the EC meeting in January 2024.

In the previous report, it was noted that the *Language Learning and Teaching* SIG had been inactive. In response to the SIG coordinator's inquiry, a group of BAAL members have shown interest in reviving the SIG. A working group has been set up for this purpose. The status of the SIG will be reviewed next year.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

SIGs have been encouraged to consider the ways in which they currently, or could in the future, embed EDI issues into their activities. Some suggested activities were circulated and SIGs have been invited to share further good practice via their annual reports.

Sathena Chan, August 2023

Web Editor's Report

Over the past 12 months, the website has only undergone routine updates to inform the community of various events and news in the field of Applied Linguistics. This has included updating the website with the relevant newsletters, information about the 2023 conference, book prizes and new Special Interest Groups. A machine translator has been added to the website so that website content can be viewed in different languages.

Analytics for the website are outlined below. The website has received approximately 35,000 visits this past year. The most popular months to visit the website are February 2023, March 2023, and April 2023. This coincides with funding announcements and announcements about the annual conference. However, for all months we receive more than 2200 visits (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of visitors per month.

Month	Visitors
August 2022	2,691
September 2022	2,640
October 2022	2,506
November 2022	2,717
December 2022	2,895
January 2023	2,995

February 2023	3,953
March 2023	4,048
April 2023	3,065
May 2023	2,914
June 2023	2,735
July 2023 (until 28 th July)	2,236

Most visits to the website are via desktop computers rather than mobile devices and tablets (Figure 1). Additionally, the overwhelming number of visits to the website are unique rather than return visits. This suggests that most visitors to the website are searching for specific information. This statistic does not account for people visiting on different devices, computers or whether visitors clear their browser cache between visits, however, so may not be reliable.

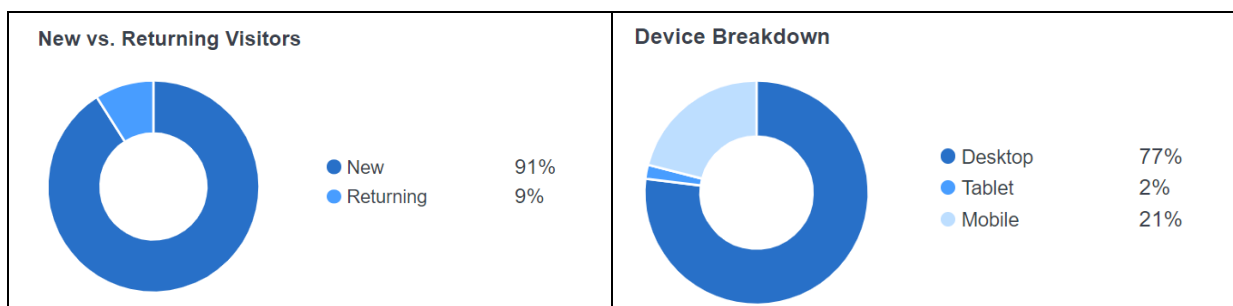


Figure 1. New vs. returning visitors & device breakdown.

The fact that people visit to search for specific information is backed up by their engagement once they land on the homepage. Over the past 30 days (as of 28th July 2023), there have been 1,539 visits and 2,586 page views. This means that the majority of visitors view two pages, including the homepage. Additionally, each visit typically lasts just 29 seconds, meaning that visitors tend to leave quickly once they have identified the information they need. The most popular page is the homepage, which indicates that most visitors either type the address into their browser or visit from a search engine. The second most popular page is for the annual conference. Visitors also look for information on the Sociolinguistic Events Calendar, about BAAL Committee, and Special Interest Groups (Table 2).

Table 2. Top posts/pages.

1. British Association for Applied Linguistics	766
2. Conferences	374
3. Sociolinguistic Events Calendar	178

4. Committee	104
5. SIGs	97
6. Documents	89
7. Newsletter	83
8. Join BAAL	81
9. BAAL Applying Linguistics Fund	54
10. Resources	52

Other than search engines, most visitors come to the website of the International Conference on Language Variation in Europe because the Sociolinguistic Events Calendar on BAAL's website is linked on theirs. This is followed by the website of the International Conference on Multilingual and Multicultural Learning: Policies and Practices, which also has the Sociolinguistic Events Calendar on their website. For other referrals, see Table 3.

Table 3. Top 10 referrals (last 30 days)

1. iclave12.dioe.at	18
2. mmlpp2023.wordpress.com	15
3. cn.bing.com	6
4. pragmatics.international	6
5. twitter.com	5
6. uk.search.yahoo.com	5
7. um.edu.mt	5
8. yandex.ru	5
9. away.vk.com	4
10. lilg.div-ling.org	4

The majority of visitors to the site are based in the United Kingdom. Interestingly, the second-most common country to access BAAL from is China (N.B. data for Hong Kong is recorded separately by the software used for compiling these statistics). The third most popular is the United States. For the rest, refer to Table 4.

Table 4. Top 10 countries (last 30 days)

1. United Kingdom	631
2. China	133
3. United States	110
4. Japan	74
5. Germany	52
6. Spain	32

7. Australia	28
8. India	27
9. Hong Kong	23
10. Italy	22

Sin Wang Chong, August 2023

CLiE Representative's Report

The Committee on Linguistics in Education (CLIE)(www.CLIE.org.uk) is a joint committee of BAAL and LAGB that brings together approximately eighteen associations and organisations with interests in language and languages in the UK education system, from primary school through to teacher education. The main purpose of CLIE is to share information and contribute expertise in linguistics and applied linguistics to benefit the curriculum in institutional settings, the professional education of teachers, and policy-making.

Members and roles

BAAL has four members on CLIE: Gee Macrory (Manchester Metropolitan University); Cathie Wallace (UCL IoE), Maria Arche (University of Greenwich) and Ursula Lanvers (University of York). Either the Secretary or the Chair of CLIE sit on the BAAL Executive Committee. The roles of Secretary and Chair of CLIE usually alternate between one member of BAAL and one member of LAGB. Professor María Arche (University of Greenwich, BAAL) took over the secretary position of CLIE in October 2022 and sits on the BAAL Executive. Dr Eva Eppler (University of Roehampton, LAGB) has also been the current chair of CLIE since October 2022.

Meetings

The committee normally meets three times a year. Even before the break of COVID-19 CLiE had decided to combine online and in-person meetings. The the first two meetings in the academic year 2022-2023 have taken place over Zoom and Ms Teams, while the third and final meeting was held in London on 9th June at UCL.

The meeting of the 9th June had Dr Philip Durrant from the University of Exeter as a guest delivering a lecture on *Corpus insights into children's writing development*. The talk was very well received and triggered good discussion. Points of particular interest include the fact that development of language complexity (e.g., development of noun phrases and adverbial clauses) seems to be aided through non-literary, non-fiction texts (e.g., science). It was

agreed that CLiE would keep in touch with Phil in the context of some of the ongoing working groups (e.g., Ofsted Curriculum Review of English)

Undertakings

CLiE and groups of its members are operating various subprojects. CLiE is very keen to incorporate colleagues from BAAL to some of these working groups.

Recent activities and discussions include:

1. UKLO (UK Linguistics Olympiad)

As reported previously, the UK first competed in the International Olympiad (IOL) in 2009. In the last two years, significant disruption was caused by Covid-19. The response this year 2022-23 has been very good. The final count for Round 1 was a record 5,206 competitors spread across the four levels of difficulty. Round 2 was held in schools (as last year), and was taken by 89 competitors. UKLO held a training-and-selection camp for the top eight competitors in Round 2 -- held in Edinburgh with Graeme Trousdale as the local organiser and funding from Edinburgh University's linguistics department. A team of four (two from state schools) was selected for the International Olympiad in Bansko (Bulgaria) the 29th of July. The jury awarded 68 medals out of 205 participants. The UK squad performed brilliantly and won one gold medal, two silver medals and one bronze. For further details see <https://ioling.org/results/2023>.

2. LASER (Linguistics Across Schools for Education and Research)

LASER ran the LAGB Education Session in September 2022 and attracted a high audience and triggered stimulating discussion. Other members will be incorporated to this group as a result. This year the activity of the group as such has been lower but its members have been contributing to the ongoing working groups of CLiE.

3. Ongoing projects and recent activities

Knowledge About Language (KAL) GAP/ KAL Upskilling

Since the last AGM, we have continued working on a small-scale research project on what we have named the KAL GAP, that is, the gap between what teachers need to know about language and what they actually do know. We considered the fact that CLiE potentially has an impact on English as first language, EAL, MFL and cross-curricular approaches, both in terms of curriculum and of teacher education. Our aim is to enable more support for new and practising teachers.

As a reminder, we are addressing the following questions:

- 1) What linguistic knowledge do teachers *need* as implied or explicitly stated by curricular documents or guidelines?
- 2) What linguistic knowledge do teachers actually *have*?

We have made some progress this academic year. The group met three times, on 12th May, 19th May, 9th June and is addressing the questions above by the following actions that are characterized by the bottom up approach agreed last year to have greater impact. We are:

- a) Working to gather, organise and make accessible resources young people can work with to extend their language analysis skills. The group is currently looking to increase the pool of resources and is calling out to BAAL colleagues to participate in the group.
- b) Preparing a survey on KAL across teachers and trainee teachers (primary school level first) to be distributed.
- c) Writing a paper on reading and phonics. Two members from BAAL (Gee Macrory & Cathie Wallace) have also been writing a paper on Phonics. The preparation for this paper is well advanced. A central point is the persistent lack of connection made between phonics and morphology in school curricula. As reported last year, this started as a response to the published research report by Wyse and Bradbury ([“Reading wars and reading conciliation”](#)), which aimed to rebalance approaches to reading and received good media coverage.

GCSE working groups (English and MFL).

CLiE will be calling out to colleagues to increase the pool of participants in this working group. The aim at the moment is quite broad, namely, identify ways to influence and improve GCSE linguistics input.

Graeme Trousdale continued representing CLiE in the discussions about GCSE English (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-subject-level-conditions-for-2022/gcse-subject-level-guidance-for-english-language-2022>) at the Common English Forum (CEF). As reported earlier, the Common English Forum (CEF) presented recommendations to the Qualifications team within the Department for Education relating to the GCSE in English Language. Although CLiE has admitted that our potential of influence is limited given that the majority of CEF are not linguists, this year CLiE took the decision to stay in the discussions to maintain any chance of linguistics having a say. This work is ongoing.

4. Other matters CLiE is involved in and are discussed

- Manifestos. CLiE has discussed, provided feedback and endorsed two Manifestos related to language this year: (i) *Manifesto for linguistics in language teaching in the UK context*. CLiE endorsed it but gave feedback asking to enhance “grammar teaching” in the text. (ii) Manifesto to support children with language needs *The ATLAS-Leiden Declaration: Think Language First!*. The manifesto is included in the presentation of CLiE at BAAL 2023, as part of the which this year is about influencing policy.
- Heritage languages A-levels in university admissions processes. CLiE is joining forces with LAGB to raise awareness about misconceptions behind not accepting A levels in the home language and the discriminations against across languages.
- Ofsted Curriculum Review of English and languages. Primary pupils are taught grammar although the test itself has some issues and the fact that the reasons behind teaching grammar keep tied to improving writing skills. Teacher training /CPD is necessary here. The languages research review reflects the concerns of a beleaguered subject that is in steep decline, with a good deal of focus on the systemic issues at national and school level.

5. CLiE forum at BAAL 2023

Following on the agreement that CLiE would have a slot at the BAAL Annual conference, CLiE is presenting at the 2023 edition in August. The topic of the presentation is **How linguistics can influence policy**. It consists of the presentation of three projects by three members:

María J Arche: Introduction and Manifesto for language needs.

*CLiE has endorsed the manifesto that the international group of linguists ATLAS has written with input from a multidisciplinary and multisectoral network of **60+** researchers, practitioners, stakeholders and policy advisors **from 10 countries**. The manifesto is tabled for the Autumn 2023 at the House of Commons where it will serve to raise awareness about the critical role of language as gateway to wellbeing and educational attainment and the key input from evidence based linguistics research to improve assessment and diagnosis.*

Gee Macrory: About Ofsted

In recent years, Ofsted has conducted research reviews into a number of curriculum areas, including languages and English. CLiE is working to engage in conversation with the Ofsted curriculum unit. A brief presentation of the main findings from Ofsted review will be followed by a discussion of the implications for teaching and learning in the classroom.

Eva Eppler: Revitalising Languages and Safeguarding Cultural Diversity (RISE UP, Horizon Europe)

This project aims to identify effective strategies to support the revitalisation of endangered languages and to empower members of endangered languages' communities to increase their prestige and use. The project aims at influencing policies that promote language maintenance as a treasure which is perceived as worth keeping alive along with cultural heritage in the younger generation. It thus complements CLiE's initiatives to support minority language use.

6. Next meetings for 2023-2024

- 13th October 2023; online, 1-4pm
- 9th February 2024; online, 1-4pm
- 7h June 2024; in-person, 11am-4pm

Maria Arche, Secretary of CLiE