


 The logo for SAAL Quarterly features the letters 'SQ' in a stylized blue font, followed by the words 'SAAL QUARTERLY' in a larger, bold, blue serif font. A horizontal line is drawn beneath the text.

MICA (P) 093/10/2005

No.75 August 2006

CONTENTS	
President's Address	2
Report on the 23 rd SAAL Lecture	7
Books Published by SAAL Members, 2003-06	9
SAAL Executive Committee (2006-2008)	11
Catching Up with Allan Luke (Part II)	12
The AILA Research Network on Language Policy (LPREN)	14
Conferences	15

SAAL Quarterly is under the editorship of Dr. T. Ruanni F. Tupas and Beatriz P. Lorente. Please address your correspondence and contributions to: Dr. T. Ruanni F. Tupas (elcttr@nus.edu.sg) Centre for English Language Communication, National University of Singapore: 10 Kent Ridge Crescent Singapore 119260.

President's Address

Singapore Association for Applied Linguistics (SAAL)
21st Annual General Meeting (AGM)
by Assoc Prof Chng Huang Hoon
29 July 2006, Regional Language Centre, 11.30am.

PREAMBLE

Dr Ho Wah Kam, SAAL Patron, A/P Anne Pakir, SAAL Adviser, Dr Teng Su Ching, SAAL Financial Adviser, members, colleagues, and friends,

On behalf of the SAAL Executive Committee, I welcome you to the 21st SAAL AGM.

I leave you to read the details of what SAAL did in the last year (1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006) in the Secretary's report. Let me however highlight a number of key activities we were engaged in.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The SAAL Executive Committee elected at the 19th SAAL AGM (14th August 2004) for the period 2004-06 are:

President:	Chng Huang Hoon
Vice-President:	Low Ee Ling
Hon. Secretary:	Lakshmy Bhaskar*
Asst Hon. Secretary:	Jackie Teo Sok Teck
Hon. Treasurer:	Lim Beng Soon
Asst Hon. Treasurer:	Christian Chia Shyh Chiuan*
Committee Members:	Radhika Jaidev (Radhika Ramakanthan)
	Topsie Ruanni Fernandez Tupas
	Beatriz Paredes Lorente
	Lee Chien Ching
	Peter Tan Kok Wan*
	Christianty Nur

[*Lakshmy Bhaskar stepped down in December 2004 and Peter Tan was co-opted as the Hon. Secretary (with effect from January 2005) by email agreement. Christian Chia also tendered his resignation with effect from 30 July 2005. Lee

Chien Ching was co-opted to serve as Assistant Treasurer at the 20th AGM held on 29 July 2005. Similarly, Larry Zhang was co-opted to serve as an exco member at the 20th AGM.]

The SAAL Exco slate as confirmed at the 20th AGM in July 2005 is as follows:

President:	Chng Huang Hoon
Vice-President:	Low Ee Ling
Hon. Secretary:	Peter Tan Kok Wan
Asst Hon. Secretary:	Jackie Teo Sok Teck
Hon. Treasurer:	Lim Beng Soon
Asst Hon. Treasurer:	Lee Chien Ching
Committee Members:	Radhika Jaidev (d/o Ramakanthan)
	T. Ruanni F. Tupas
	Beatriz Paredes Lorente
	Larry Zhang Jun
	Christianty Nur

The EXCO met 4 times during the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (September, November 2005, February and April 2006), completing the 175th meeting of the EXCO since SAAL's inception in 1985. At the meetings, we planned, organized and reviewed SAAL activities; discussed matters relating to SAAL research and publications, finance and membership, and outreach.

SAAL'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

We marked SAAL's 20th Anniversary in 2005-2006 with a series of academic and social activities:

1. The 22nd SAAL lecture

Professor Sandra Lee McKay's (San Francisco State University) SAAL lecture (no.22), 'The cultural basis of teaching English as an international language' held on 10th March 2005 at Ngee Ann Polytechnic was attended by about 50 people.

4 *SAAL Quarterly*

2. SAAL talk

Associate Professor David Deterding's (NIE/NTU) talk entitled 'The status and intelligibility of Singapore English in other parts of the world', held on 7 April 2005, jointly hosted by SAAL and the Centre for English Language Communication (CELC/NUS) was attended by 30 people.

3. 1ST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) MEETING

The first SAAL Special Interest Group or SIG on "Child Language Research in Singapore" led by Dr Madalena Cruz-Ferreira held on 3rd September 2005, saw about 25 students, teachers and researchers and 4 panelists gathered at NUS. This SIG has continued to share their work over email and in person, and has reported regularly on their progress in the SAAL Quarterly. I hope more SIGs will be created in the years ahead.

4. SAAL GALA DINNER

The finale event for SAAL's 20th Anniversary was the gala dinner held on 28 October 2005 (Friday) at the NUSS Guildhouse at Suntec City. 71 members and friends attended this dinner.

OTHER EVENTS

In addition to these activities, on 22nd February 2006, SAAL again co-hosted a talk given by KC Lee entitled, "Tracing ideas from a pre-writing discussion session to individual drafts". 20 people attended this talk.

In doing all of the above in 2005-2006, our members' support has been the central factor in determining the successful outcome of each of these events. The SAAL Exco thanks all of you for supporting our effort in promoting academic and social networks within Singapore.

In 2006, the SAAL Exco began thinking seriously of reviewing SAAL's strategic position as a viable association in Singapore. To this end, select members of the Exco met up with our advisers on 21 January 2006 for a strategic review (6 attended). It was decided that SAAL should proceed systematically to effect change internally and externally. That meeting was followed by a Balance Score Card Meeting on 19 April 2006 with Dr Teng Su Ching (6 attended). It was agreed at the April Meeting that SAAL should first determine the needs of the

current membership and other interested stakeholders in the community. We held a Focused Group Discussion on 30 May 2006 (9 attended), and that resulted in the production of a survey questionnaire that will be distributed to members and non-members alike. This survey aims to identify concerns and issues that will help to direct a new SAAL programme in the new term and, if relevant, beyond. SAAL has tried to actively engage all members in taking on these initiatives in 2006. It is our hope that these efforts will go some way in shaping a sound programme for SAAL as we begin a new decade in SAAL history.

SAAL QUARTERLY

The SAAL Quarterly was co-edited by T. Ruanni F. Tupas and Beatriz Lorente. 4 issues (SQ71-74, August 2005-May 2006) were brought out during this period. We thank members who have contributed to the Quarterly and we encourage all of you to continue to send your short articles their way. The two editors have worked creatively to introduce new features in the Quarterly each year, the latest being an interview section profiling prominent applied linguists. We are confident that as we develop the Quarterly further, the SQ will be a pride among members.

AILA MATTERS

The AILA Review Volume 18, 2005 was received and distributed to all our members recently.

In March 2006, the AILA account was officially closed and the amount of about S\$118,000 was transferred into the existing SAAL account. S\$100,000 was placed in a fixed deposit account from March 2006 to March 2007. In addition, earlier this year, US\$1,000 was donated to AILA in support of the AILA Solidarity Awards. AILA President Prof Susan Gass has thanked SAAL for the generous contribution.

LOOKING AHEAD

In this coming year, internally, I hope the SAAL exco will work towards a more accountable system of governance by implementing the balance score card system. This system will enable us to track the Exco's progress in developing SAAL in accordance to membership needs. We have taken note of members' call for SAAL to help facilitate academic and social networking among applied linguists, teachers and interested members of the community. Future ExcOs must find ways to conduct relevant activities that will answer this need. We should also

try to make fuller use of the SAAL website in providing online discussion forum, share our research papers, and so on. The SAAL Exco comprises of only a dozen members at any one time. Though I have been blessed to have worked with very competent and committed Exco members in all my years with SAAL, I am fully aware of the strain on Exco members' time and energy in organizing events and helping me implement various policies. In the year ahead, SAAL should continue to create relevant avenues for members to interact and share their work; and look into creative and cost-effective ways of 'outsourcing' some of this work externally so as to ease the Exco's burden. Much work lies ahead of us, but I am confident that with the in-coming Exco for 2006-2008 and the many ideas we have buzzing in our heads, the new term will be an exciting time for all.

THANK YOUs

It leaves me now to thank various individuals who have supported me and SAAL in the last year. First, the SAAL Exco 2004-2006—in particular the five office bearers Low Ee Ling (Vice President), Lim Beng Soon (Treasurer), Lee Chien Ching (Assistant Treasurer), Peter Tan (Secretary), and Jackie Teo (Assistant Secretary), and the five exco members, Beatriz Lorente, Chris Nur, Lawrence Zhang, Radhika Jaidev, and T. Ruanni F. Tupas—this was a team I had the privilege to work with. In addition, special thanks to our able and efficient webmaster, Alvin Leong for maintaining the SAAL website for us, on a voluntary basis. Beng Soon, Radhika and Chris are leaving the exco this year—our best wishes to them in their endeavours, and of course, our sincere thanks for their contributions.

SAAL has been ably guided by our Patron Dr Ho Wah Kam, our Adviser A/P Anne Pakir and our Financial Adviser Dr Teng Su Ching. I add them to my already over-long debt list.

In addition, SAAL has been fortunate to have the staunch support of various individuals and institutions. In particular, we thank Assoc Prof Robbie Goh, (Head, English Language and Literature/NUS) Assoc Prof Lubna Alsagoff (Head, English Language and Literature/NIE), Dr Wong Lian Aik (Director, CELC/NUS), Mrs Tay Sor Har (Director, RELC). Assoc Prof Lai Phooi Ching (Head, LCC/HSS, NTU)—the support they have given to SAAL is much appreciated.

Finally, I must record my gratitude to our auditors Dr Alvin Leong and Assoc Prof Vincent Ooi, and most of all, to you, our members who have made

everything possible. Thank you all for your continued support and hard work. I hope the next board will enjoy even greater levels of support from you.

REPORT on the 23rd SAAL Lecture
Applied Linguistics in Asia: Pathways, Patterns and Predictions

By Assoc Prof Anne Pakir

29 July 2006
Room 507, SEAMEO Regional Language Centre (RELC)
Orange Grove Road

Associate Professor Anne Pakir addressed an audience of approximately 60 people, including not only local lecturers from most of Singapore's tertiary level institutions, but also international students currently enrolled in RELC's Post-Graduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics course.

Professor Pakir's lecture was based on an article which she published in the AILA Review, Volume 17 (2004). She began by observing that Applied Linguistics originated in the West and has been dominated by Western scholarship. However, Asia is growing rapidly. It has been predicted that by 2050 the largest economies in the world will be China, India and the United States in that order. Her question then was, how can Asia affect the world view of Applied Linguistics? She wanted to investigate Asian perspectives on Applied Linguistics, admittedly a broad field with many diverse elements, and find out what Asian preoccupations were and how these preoccupations might affect future world wide views of Applied Linguistics. Given the size and diversity of Asian societies, and the fact that the continent contains examples of all three of Kachru's circles with regard to English usage, the region can be seen as a fertile laboratory for Applied Linguistic study.

Ironically, Professor Pakir pointed out, western scholarship includes very little reference to Asian scholarship. And though Asian scholars in the region are recording and analysing various aspects of local language issues, their work is generally not recognised by AL scholarship in the BANA (British and North American) sphere.

AL began in the 1940's as "the academic arm" of English language teaching. Since then it has absorbed a variety of new strands of linguistic investigation,

including sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics, especially studies relating to language acquisition. Though it is still generally identified with ESL, it is now often seen as a “fragmented” field.

Asian scholars write on a wide variety of topics that fall within this field. The Japanese have even produced an *Encyclopedia of the English Situation in Asia*. However, such publications are unknown in much of the west. Professor Pakir even mentioned an experience of her own. Looking for the journal *World Englishes* in the Cornell University library and being unable to find it, she asked the librarian who not only told her that they didn't have it but went on to say that that couldn't be the name of a journal because the word “Englishes” was incorrect!

In order to find out more about Asian-based research into Applied Linguistics, Prof. Pakir conducted a survey from which she concluded that the primary concerns of Asian applied linguists were (1) ESP, (2) teaching methodology, and (3) instructional materials development. She then distributed a questionnaire to Southeast Asian applied linguists to find out more about the nature of applied linguistics in Expanding Circle and Outer Circle countries. The questionnaire asked open-ended questions about (1) the country's primary language issues, (2) how these issues could contribute to a global view of AL, (3) the development of AL in their country, (4) the current issues being dealt with in AL in their country, (5) the unique features of AL research in their country, (6) who their leading researchers were, (7) whether they were contributing to a global view of AL, and (8) their opinions on what research in AL in their country could contribute to a global view of AL.

The common feature of responses from former British colonies, related to the complexities inherent in the teaching of any language. Most of these countries have multiple linguistic and ethnic traditions and so are always acutely aware of the cultural politics of language. Each grapples in its own way with the English language legacy.

The Expanding Circle countries of China, Korea and Japan have different issues relating to English in a globalising world, where the flow of both people and goods is aided by English.

Finally, Professor Pakir looks at the future and raises the question of whether or not, with China and India predicted to become the world's largest economies, English will retain its role as a lingua franca or whether everyone everywhere will

instead rush out to learn Chinese or Hindi. Though it is difficult to predict what the future may bring, Prof Pakir ends by saying that AL orientations will need to be re-visioned to accommodate an Asian-based model.

References

- Honna, N. (ed.) 2002. *Ajia no Saishin-eigo-jijo*: The Encyclopaedia of the English Language Situation in Asia. Tokyo: Taishukan.
- Kachru, B. (1984). World Englishes and the teaching of English to non-native speakers, contexts, attitudes, and concerns. *TESOL Newsletter*. 18:25-26.
Reported by Gloria Poedjosoedarmo
SEAMEO Regional Language Centre

Books published by our SAAL Membership 2003-2006 (ordered alphabetically)

- Ban Kah Choon, Anne Pakir & Tong Chee Kiong (eds.) 2004. *Imagining Singapore*. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish.
- Chandrasegaran, Antonia & Kirsten Schaezel. 2004. *Think Your Way to Effective Writing*. Singapore: Pearson Prentice Hall.
- Chew, Phyllis and Toh Weng Choy 2004. *Comprehension Strategies*. Singapore: Federal.
- Chew, Phyllis (Project Advisor) 2006. *In Step. A Course English Series for Primary Schools*. Books Primary 1-6. Singapore: SNP/Pan Pacific Publications.
- Cruz-Ferreira, M. (2006). *Three is a crowd? Acquiring Portuguese in a trilingual environment*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters .
- Cruz-Ferreira, Madalena & Sunita Anne Abraham. 2006. *The Language of Language: Core Concepts in Linguistic Analysis* (2nd ed.) Pearson Education South Asia (Prentice Hall).
- Deterding, David, Adam Brown & Low Ee Ling (eds.). 2005. *English in Singapore: Phonetic Research based on a Corpus*. Singapore: McGraw-Hill Education (Asia).
- Deterding, David, Low Ee Ling & Adam Brown (eds.). 2003. *English in Singapore: Research on Grammar*. Singapore: McGraw-Hill Education (Asia).
- Doyle, Paul, Christine C.M Goh & Zhang Jun Lawrence. 2005. *Language*

- Education Concepts: A Guide for English Language Teachers*. Singapore: Pearson Education Longman.
- Foley, J. & Thompson, L. 2003. *Learning Language: A Lifelong Process*. London & New York: Edward Arnold.
- Goh, Christine C.M. & Silver, Rita E. 2006. *Language Learning: Home, School and Society*. London: Pearson Longman.
- Goh, Christine C.M., Zhang Jun Lawrence, Koh Guat Hua & Ng Chiew Hong. 2005. *Knowledge, Beliefs and Syllabus Implementation: A Study of English Language Teachers in Singapore*. Singapore: Nanyang Technological University.
- Ho Wah Kam and Ruth Y L Wong (Eds).(2000, 2nd Ed. 2004). *Language Policies and Language Education: The Impact in East Asian Countries in the Next Decade*. Singapore: Eastern Universities Press.
- Ho Wah Kam and Ruth Y L Wong (Eds).(2003, 2nd Ed. 2004) *English Language Teaching in East Asia Today: Changing Policies and Practices*. Singapore: Eastern Universities Press.
- Hughes, Richard & Carmel Heah. 2003. *Common Errors in English*. Third Edition. Malaysia: Penerbit Fajar Bakti Sdn Bhd/Oxford University Press.
- Lakshmy Anantha Krishnan; Rowena Jong, Sujata S. Kathpalia, & Tam Moh Kim. 2006. *Engineering Your Report: From Start to Finish (2nd ed)*. Singapore: Pearson-Prentice Hall.
- Leong, Ping Alvin, David Deterding & Low Ee Ling. 2006. *An Introduction to Linguistics*. Singapore: McGraw-Hill Education (Asia).
- Low, Ee Ling & Adam Brown. 2005. *English in Singapore: An Introduction*. Singapore: McGraw-Hill (Education): Asia.
- Poedjosoedarmo, G. (ed.). 2003. *Teaching and Assessing Language Proficiency*. Singapore: SEAMEO Regional Language Centre *Anthology Series 45*.
- Poedjosoedarmo, G. (ed.). 2005. *Innovative Approaches to Reading & Writing Instruction*. Singapore: SEAMEO Regional Language Centre *Anthology Series 46*.
- S. Gopinathan, Pakir, A, Ho, W.K. & Saravanan, V. 2003. *Language, Society and Education in Singapore: Issues and Trends*. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish.
- Rubdy, Rani & Mario Saraceni (Eds.) 2006. *English in the World: Global Roles, Global Rules*. London: Continuum.
- Rubdy, Rani. 2006. *The Uni-SIM Effective Student Handbook (CD-ROM)*. Uni-SIM, Singapore.
-

SAAL Executive Committee (2006-2008)

Post	Office-Holder
President	Chng Huang Hoon
Vice-President	Low Ee Ling
Secretary	Peter Tan
Asst Secretary	Jackie Teo
Treasurer	Beatriz Lorente
Asst Treasurer	Lee Chien Ching
Committee Members	Rani Rubdy, Arzami Salim T. Ruanni F. Tupas, Roger Winder, Lawrence Zhang Jun, Zhu Shenfa
Patron	Ho Wah Kam
Advisor	Anne Pakir
Financial Advisor	Teng Su Ching
SAAL Quarterly	T. Ruanni F. Tupas Beatriz Lorente
Auditors	Benny P H Lee Jenny Gan

MEET NEW MEMBERS OF THE SAAL EXCO

Arzami Bin Salim is currently a teacher of General Paper at Innova Junior College. He graduated from NIE/NTU in 2001 with a B.A in English Language & Literature (Merit) and received his Masters in English Studies from NUS in 2005, doing it as a part-time student. He hopes to pursue a PhD in the near future. His academic interest is in Language Testing and Assessment.

Roger Winder has a Masters in English Language from the National University of Singapore. His first teaching experience was in Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) in 1996, after which he moved on to teach linguistics to undergraduates at the National University of Singapore from 1996 to 2000. Since 2003, he has also been teaching oral communication skills as well as general communication skills to trainee teachers at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University. More recently, he has been teaching English at the Management Development of Singapore, mainly to

foreign students, and has just started a new appointment as Associate Tutor at SIM University.

Zhu Shenfa is currently a lecturer with the Centre for English Language Communication at NUS. He first graduated from Harbin Normal University, China. After teaching in his alma mater for eight years, he came to Singapore on a scholarship to pursue his PGDELTA at NIE. In 1997, he was awarded an MA in English language by NUS and, in the following year, a research scholarship leading to his PhD in phonetics and phonology. His research interests lie in phonetics and phonology, contrastive studies of English and Chinese, translation studies, teaching English and Chinese as a foreign/second language, and features of Singapore English and Singapore Mandarin. Shenfa hopes to grow professionally with SAAL.

Catching Up with Allan Luke (Part II)

SAAL Quarterly will be featuring an interview section where researchers and practitioners from the different fields of applied linguistics will be profiled. We are inviting all of you to suggest applied linguists you would like us to profile.

Our first interviewee is Prof. Allan Luke. He is a Professor of Education at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). He was the Foundation Dean of the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice at NIE from 2003-2005. He is currently developing new research projects in early literacy, accountability and assessment, and comparative pedagogies. He is co-editor of: *Teaching Education* (Routledge), *Review of Research in Education* (American Educational Research Association), *Asia Pacific Journal of Education* (Routledge) and *Pedagogies: An International Journal* (Erlbaum). This is the second part of his interview; the first part was featured in SQ 74.

1. Has your experience in Singapore influenced your perspectives on language, literacy and education? If so, how?

It's utterly changed how I view issues of culture, and the possibilities of systemic reform within conventional school systems. I think the data and studies that are ongoing at CRPP and NIE provide the most comprehensive picture of strengths and weaknesses of any state education system anywhere - and that the Singapore Ministry is in a better position to read, respond, reform on these evidence bases

than any of the complex, vexed systems in the west. Western systems - as well as many in Asia - are continuing to 'misrecognise' the major cultural, economic and communications media changes developing in economies, workplaces and, ultimately, schools and kids' lives. Hence, there's a continual battle here around a very regressive 'back to the basics' movement that wants to act like a return to 50s values and educational orientations (spelling, handwriting, phonics) will address the host of cultural and economic issues facing communities and families. Further, there are the perpetual political battles over curriculum content - Shakespeare versus popular culture, traditional versus critical literacy, classical music versus rap - that are fed by a tabloid press and some politicians. So there are plenty of issues to take up both via research and public intellectual work and advocacy here - and in the public policy fora of the US and Canada.

2. What can the Australian educational system learn from Singapore?

It could benefit from the levels of funding and national political 'will' around education, the focus on conjoining educational with social, economic AND cultural policy, and the systematic interpretive use of rich social science data for educational policy and decision making that we prototyped and are carrying on at CRPP and NIE. The community and national 'cultures of education' have great strengths and even greater possibilities still.

3. What can the Singaporean educational system learn from Australia?

It could benefit from a widening of the parameters of professional and public debate over educational goals, aims and means. The openness and vigor with which educational, public policy and civic issues are pursued here is, I think, in the long run beneficial for all parties and stakeholders involved in the educational system. Teachers and administrators are quite actively involved in these debates and discussions, which often get quite hot. Australian teachers have a 'larrikin' streak of bravado, innovation and experimentation - which means there are creative and critical reforms going on across the system, at the school and classroom level, even when ministries and systems take their time in making up their minds, or perpetually switch policy directions. Educators have what Bransford and Darling-Hammond recently called "adaptive expertise" rather than just a "routine expertise" - they continue to take risks and explore new educational approaches. Couldn't stop them if we tried.

4. What do you miss most about Singapore? Why?

Friends, food, the rich intercultural milieu, the intellectual force of the teams we built at CRPP, the sheer talent of many of the young Assistant Professors and the 'best and brightest' at NIE, NTU and NUS. And the NIE PhD students who are amongst the best in the world. Singapore would have been proud if they could have seen the 25 NIE and CRPP researchers presenting to their international peers earlier this year at the American Educational Research Association conference. Singapore educators are on the world stage - miss them and glad I was able to help get them there.

5. Will you be visiting Singapore in the near future?

Hopefully back next year as the backlog of work begins to clear, but for now, very, very busy writing and teaching.

The AILA Research Network on Language Policy (LPREN)

The Research Network on Language Policy was approved by the AILA Research Networks committee on 2 May 2006. The Network is open to any AILA member conducting research or teaching in the various fields of language policy and management. For more information, please refer to the LPREN website at www.lpren.org.

LPREN Launch

LPREN and the www.lpren.org website were formally launched on 6 July 2006, at the Sociolinguistics Symposium in Limerick and at the ALAA meeting in Brisbane

In Limerick, some 70 people heard brief presentations on the social responsibilities of linguists working in the area of language policy. Presenters included Nancy Hornberger, University of Pennsylvania; Alastair Pennycook, University of Technology Sydney; Durk Gorter, University of Amsterdam; Donna Patrick, University of Carleton; Gabrielle Hogan-Brun, University of Bristol; and Elana Shohamy, Tel Aviv University.

All agreed that language policy involved combining responsible research with commitment and even some activism. The organizer, Bernard Spolsky, who

chaired the session, commented that a network is not a spectator sport, and urged members to initiate activities.

Of the launch in Brisbane, Richard Baldauf wrote:

“In Brisbane we had a relatively small, but very interested group of participants and it sounds like our 'papers' were a bit less formal than perhaps yours were. Each person (William Eggington, Brigham Young University; Koo Yew Lie, National University of Malaysia; Kevin Lowe, Aboriginal Education, NSW Office of the Board of Studies; independent researcher Helen Moore; Donna Starks, University of Auckland, Kerry Taylor-Leech, Griffith University) spoke for about 10 minutes, raising issues from the variety of perspectives represented, and then we had quite a lively and interactive discussion”.

“I felt the symposium went very well, and we launched the logo and the web addresses. People went away feeling quite enthusiastic, about both the session, and LP issues.”

Among the plans for LPREN, colloquia are being organized for AILA 2008 in Essen and Sociolinguistics Symposium 17 in Amsterdam, and an AILA book proposal is being developed.

(Excerpted from www.lpren.org)

CONFERENCES

The English Language Teaching and Learning Landscape: *Continuity, Innovation and Diversity*

30 May - 1 June 2007. Hilton Hotel, Orchard Road, Singapore

The Centre for English Language Communication (CELC), National University of Singapore invites colleagues from all over the world to participate in its second international symposium for English language teachers. This symposium will combine classroom-based research paper presentations with small group discussions to give presenters and participants an enriching professional development experience. Featured speakers: Professor Ken Hyland, Professor Stephen Krashen and Professor Amy Tsui. Website: <http://www.nus.edu.sg/celc/symposium/index.htm>.

Empowering Asia: New Paradigms in English Language Education

8-10 June 2007, Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

This 5th Asia TEFL International Conference will be the biggest English Language Education event to be held in Malaysia. It promises to be a landmark event that draws the attention and participation of English language educationist from Malaysia and around the globe. Featured speakers: David Graddol, Gunther Kress, Ibrahim Ahmad Bajunid, Joseph Lo Bianco, Jun Liu, *University of Arizona*, Paul Kei Matsuda, Ronald Carter. Website: <http://www.asiatefl-melta.com/index.htm>.

Social and Cognitive Aspects of Second Language Learning and Teaching

12-14 April 2007, [Langham Hotel](#), Auckland

For this conference we invite contributors to address (from their own particular perspectives) either **cognitive aspects of SLA** (such as attention, information processing, explicit and implicit forms of knowledge), or **social aspects of SLA** (including such matters as identity, affect and the co-construction of knowledge). Alternatively, participants may wish to take a more socio-cognitive perspective, looking at any form of interdependence between cognitive processes and aspects of the social contexts in which language is used and learned which is significant for language acquisition and for language teaching.

Website: <http://www.confer.co.nz/sociocog/welcome.html>