



British Association for Applied Linguistics

Who we are; what we do; role during COVID-19

On behalf of Dawn Knight, Chair of BAAL

Overview of BAAL



- BAAL is a professional association for people interested in language and the applications of linguistics.
- BAAL is an affiliate of the International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA) and the Academy for Social Sciences (AcSS).
- BAAL currently has over 1200 members from the UK and worldwide.
- A key role of BAAL is to provide a forum for applied linguists to come together in various ways to support each other and to develop the discipline. It also functions to move the discipline forward and support the work conducted by its membership.

Committee



Dawn Knight
Chair
(2018-2021)



Caroline Tagg
Secretary
(2018-2021)



Steve Morris
Treasurer
(2014-2017; 2017-2020)



Owen Minns
Media Coordinator
(2018-2021)



Glenn Hadikin
Meetings Secretary
(2019-2022)



Jessica Briggs Baffoe-Djan
Membership Secretary
(2016-2019; 2019-2022)



Bettina Beinhoff
Newsletter Editor
(2015-2018; 2018-2021)



Sal Consoli
Postgraduate Development &
Liaison Coordinator
(2018-2020)

Committee



Bernie O'Rourke
Publications Secretary
(2014-2017; 2017-2020)



Vander Viana
Seminars Coordinator
(2019-2022)



Helen Sauntson
Special Interests Groups
Coordinator
(2018-2021)



Nathaniel Owen
Website Editor
(2019-2022)



Kristina Hultgren
Ordinary Member
(2017-2019; 2019-2022)



Zhu Hua
Ordinary Member
(2016-2018; 2018-2020)



Ruth Page
Ordinary Member
(2019-2021)

Special Interest Groups



- Corpus Linguistics
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Health and Science Communication
- Language, Gender and Sexuality
- Intercultural Communication
- Language and New Media
- Language in Africa
- Language Learning and Teaching
- Language policy
- Linguistic Ethnography Forum
- Testing, Evaluation and Assessment
- Multilingualism
- Vocabulary Studies
- Linguistics and Knowledge about Language in Education (LKALE)
- Professional, Academic and Work-Based Literacies (PAWBL)

Member benefits



BAAL is a supportive and diverse community, offering **ALL** members...

- An opportunity to connect with other members of the **academic community** working in the broad field of applied linguistics, including numerous chances for **networking** – both in the general AL field (e.g. the annual conference, via Twitter, Facebook and BAALmail) and in colleagues' specific areas of interest (i.e. through the SIGs)
- **BAALmail** enables members to stay abreast of the latest news and initiatives, while the **annual meeting** offers individuals a chance to network with others from a range of different academic backgrounds.
- **Financial support** to develop colleagues' ideas (e.g. former Routledge workshop, current CUP seminars, Applying Linguistics fund).

Member benefits



- Support to **PG students and early-career researchers** (cf. recent activities on this front and the plans for the future).
- **Representation** in matters of national/international relevance (e.g. representation in REF panels).
- **Opportunity for participation** in the committee, including a voice for PG students on the executive committee.
- BAAL's **Good Practice Guidelines** are a vital part of British research and teaching practice in applied linguistics. These guidelines are currently being updated, with a new version to be released soon.

Role during COVID-19



What has changed?

- Some of these roles have become even more important in the light of COVID and the support that BAAL offers to its membership has become more pressing given the current and future challenges that we have been facing. BAAL is an organization that can speak at national level about areas of key concern and connect the UK with the wider global work in our field and fields related to this.
- It has been important for BAAL to maintain a presence among its members, albeit an online presence. People still need to experience a sense of a discipline-specific academic community, even if this cannot be managed in face-to-face contexts at the moment.

Role during COVID-19



BAAL Online Conference 2020

Friday 4th September

<https://www.baal.org.uk/what-we-do/annual-conference/baal-2020-online-event/>

The BAAL online conference is to replace the postponed annual conference which will now be held in Northumbria in 2021. The event aims to reconnect members of BAAL across the world during this trying time, to create a space for the exchange of ideas and to promote good research.

The event is free to attend and open to ALL BAAL members and will include:

- a range of exciting talks
- a publishing workshop
- a postgraduate event
- the first BAAL quiz
- the BAAL AGM and Executive Committee elections

Role during COVID-19



What has changed?

- It's also important that BAAL plays a role in ensuring professional standards are upheld in the discipline even during a time of crisis, and offering support to its members who, like us, will be finding the present situation very challenging.
- Irrespective of how 'applied linguistics' is defined, we, as an association, are best placed to respond to the challenges of COVID-19. As Applied Linguists, COVID-19 is an opportunity for us to address these issues and help society in this moment of crisis.

Challenges



- Potentially, the biggest challenge is how BAAL and its members deals with the financial aftermath of the pandemic. This will have consequences for higher education and is likely to impact us all in the field – not only financially but also psychologically, career-wise, research-wise, etc.
- We would be keen to work with other applied linguistics institutions across the world to share thoughts, ideas and good practice on this (and any other aspect of the association).
- Contact: BAALChair@Cardiff.ac.uk

Visit us: www.baal.org.uk



برطانوی ایہ | Brytyjskie Stowarzyszenie Lingwistyki Stosowanej | 英国应用语言学协会 | Britse Vereniging voor Toegepaste Taalkunde | Associazione Britannica di Ling

لغويين مهتمين في اللغة والتطبيق اللغوي | 英國應用語言學協會 | 英國應用語言學協會 | 英國應用語言學協會 | 英國應用語言學協會 | 英國應用語言學協會 | 英國應用語言學協會

What languages are represented above? – Test yourself!

BAAL is a professional association, based in the UK, which provides a forum for people interested in language and applied linguistics. We

Tweets by @_BAAL

