

The Applied Linguistics Associations of Australia (ALAA) and New Zealand (ALANZ) are pleased to announce their second combined conference:

Applied Linguistics as a Meeting Place

30 November – 2 December 2011

Hosted by the University of Canberra and the Australian National University

The Applied Linguistics Associations of Australia (ALAA) and New Zealand (ALANZ) are hosting their second combined conference with the theme *Applied Linguistics as a Meeting Place*. The conference will focus on intersections between Applied Linguistics and other disciplines and areas of practice.

The conference will highlight Australia's beautiful national capital as an intellectual, cultural, political and policy-development centre.

This conference is proudly hosted by the University of Canberra (UC) and The Australian National University (ANU). The first two days (30 Nov–1 Dec) will be at UC and the joint day with ALS will be at the ANU.

Plenary Speakers are:

Diana Eades (University of New England)

Janet Holmes (Victoria University, Wellington)

Andy Kirkpatrick (Griffith University)

Tim McNamara (University of Melbourne)

Merrill Swain (University of Toronto)

Conference strands are:

- > Language and Culture
- > Language and Education
- > Language and Indigenous Issues
- > Language and Literacy
- > Language and Social Interaction
- > Language, Society, Politics & Policies
- > Language and the Arts
- > Language and the Law
- > Issues in Assessment and Testing in Applied Linguistics (organised by the Association for Language Testing & Assessment of Australia & New Zealand, ALTAANZ)
- > Issues in Interpreting and Translation
- > Issues in Language Development
- > Technology and Language Learning

Click [here](#) for full descriptions of each strand.

Special Events and Features:

The conference will also be preceded by the first **ALAA-ALANZ Postgraduate Student Workshop**. It will be a unique opportunity for graduate students from universities in Australia, New Zealand and other countries, who are registered for the ALAA-ALANZ and/or ALS conferences, to discuss an issue or a burning problem related to their thesis with peers and distinguished academics, including the ALAA-ALANZ Conference plenary speakers.

The following special events and features are in planning:

Invited Panel "Bilingual Education: Where does it fit?" An expert panel will draw on their knowledge and experience of a range of bilingual policies and programs to discuss where bilingual education fits within the school system, national and state language education policies, and the Australian Curriculum.

Invited Colloquium "Approaching Classroom Discourse as Social Interaction" Three panellists will demonstrate how an excerpt of everyday classroom interaction might be analysed from the perspectives of (respectively) interactional sociolinguistics, conversation analysis and critical discourse analysis. Discussion will consider pros and cons of each approach, its appropriateness to different research questions, and the possibility or difficulty of combining these approaches in discourse analytic research.

Invited Colloquium "Do you speak International English?" Panellists will consider the controversies around the notion of International English, the difficulties of defining this term and its boundaries, the circumstances surrounding the perceived need for this term, the English used by native speaker teachers overseas and NNS professionals in international business, and how Australian and overseas language policies address these issues – if at all.

Workshops on Technology and Language Teaching A series of hands-on, interactive sessions will focus on using technology for language teaching generally, specifically (e.g. teaching grammar), and in a range of contexts from conventional classrooms to distance learning. The technologies will include such things as mobile devices, Smart Board, Moodle and Second Life.

Special Presentation The Educational Testing Service (ETS) will present a plaque to the 2010 winner of the *TOEFL Young Outstanding Scholar Award*, Dr Aek Phakiti, University of Sydney. This award recognizes an individual under the age of 40 whose scholarship or other major professional activities have made an outstanding contribution to the field of foreign or second language assessment.

Special Feature The ALAA-ALANZ-ALS [Gamilaraay Language Workshop](#) will provide an opportunity for a hands-on experience in learning a NSW Aboriginal language that is being rebuilt and in exploring possibilities for teaching it.

ALS Workshops on the Joint ALAA-ALANZ and ALS Day (2 Dec): **Current Issues in Non-verbal Communication Research** and **Kids, Kriol(s) and Classrooms** click [here](#)

The last **ALAA-ALANZ** event will be run jointly with **ALS**, and will be a public forum chaired by Damien Carrick (ABC Radio National Law Report) discussing the question 'Is it possible to receive justice in a language that's not your own?'. The panellists will consist of three expert linguists (Diana Eades, Tim McNamara and tbd) and three high profile legal people discussing actual instances from the linguists' data. It will be recorded for broadcast on the Law Report at a later date. The forum will start at 5.30pm and run until approximately 7.00pm. It is shaping up to be an excellent end to the **ALAA-ALANZ** conference as well as an exciting event on the first day of the **ALS** conference.

For special events on **Language and the Law**, click [here](#).