



## **Applied Linguistics Association of New Zealand**

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### **NEWSLETTER 2, 2009**

Dear ALANZ member

The second newsletter for 2009 is being mailed out with the first issue of our journal, *New Zealand Studies in Applied Linguistics*, and in time to draw your attention to some key dates for our first combined conference with applied linguistics colleagues from Australia. We are looking forward to hosting this event in Auckland and would encourage you to note key dates in your diary and draw the attention of your colleagues to the conference website ( [www.alanz.ac.nz/conferences](http://www.alanz.ac.nz/conferences) ) where details about the conference have been posted. Key details for quick reference include:

<b>Title</b>	ALANZ ALAA Conference
<b>Dates</b>	2-4 December 2009
<b>Venue</b>	AUT University
<b>Theme</b>	Participation and acquisition: Exploring these metaphors in Applied Linguistics
<b>Keynote speakers</b>	Gary Barkhuizen (University of Auckland) Cathie Elder (University of Melbourne) Tim McNamara (University of Melbourne) Lourdes Ortega (University of Hawaii at Manoa)
<b>Call for papers</b>	Close 31 July 2009
<b>Registration</b>	Earlybird registration closes 16 October 2009

The organizing committee - Rod Ellis, Rosemary Erlam, Sue Gray, Martin East, Rebecca Adams and John Bitchener (chair) - have been meeting each month since last year and are confident of the conference being a great success. We are expecting to make a small profit from the event but in the event that this does not happen, ALANZ is underwriting the conference so that all expenses are covered. Running an international conference requires more funding than the running of a smaller symposium. Consequently, the registration fee for this event is considerably higher than that for earlier symposiums. The generous sponsorship of several universities is helping us meet the challenge of staging the first of what will be a regular event every two years. The next combined conference will be hosted by ALAA in 2011. In the intervening years, both associations will host their own symposium/conference.

#### **Regional Seminar 2009**

This year's regional seminar was hosted by the University of Auckland on Saturday 13 June. Following previous years, a good number of thesis students from universities in Auckland and Hamilton presented papers about research in progress. A special word of thanks to Katherine Cao and Jenefer Philp (and their team of helpers) for the

work they put into what was a very enjoyable and successful event. Next year, the team at Waikato University will be hosting the seminar.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The annual general meeting of the association will be held during the ALANZ ALAA conference. Minutes of the 2008 meeting can be accessed from the ALANZ website.

### **A new executive in 2010**

The current ALANZ Executive (John Bitchener, Rosemary Erlam and Janet Von Randow) will be stepping down after serving two terms. This opens up the opportunity for another centre to lead us into a new term. It has been our experience that membership of the executive does not need to reside in one university but, for logistical reasons, it is best if members are from the same geographical region. Those who might be interested in having their names put forward may like to find out a bit more about what is involved in the various roles. If this is the case, please feel free to make contact with one of us. We would suggest that expressions of interest be given to the current executive so that we can decide what processes need to be set up before a vote is taken at the Annual General Meeting.

### **ALANZ Best Thesis Competition**

Each year, ALANZ runs a competition for the best PhD thesis and the best Masters thesis in Applied Linguistics. The theses are judged by representatives from the universities in New Zealand and are judged according to three criteria:

1. Originality of conception and place within the field of knowledge
2. Quality of research design/methodology and execution
3. Nature and extent of contribution to theory and practice

The winner of each category receives:

1. A congratulations card and book voucher
2. A full year's membership of ALANZ
3. An opportunity to publish an aspect of the work in an issue of *New Zealand Studies in Applied Linguistics*

Each institution may forward one PhD and one Masters thesis. Entries close at the end of the first week of December each year. Entries should be submitted to Professor John Bitchener ([john.bitchener@aut.ac.nz](mailto:john.bitchener@aut.ac.nz)) as email attachments by the coordinating representative from each institution before **Friday 4 December 2009**.

#### ***2009 PhD Winner:***

Gillian Skyrme (Massey University)

#### ***2009 Masters Winner:***

SeungHee Pak (University of Auckland)

The 2009 judges were: Jenefer Philp (University of Auckland), James McLellan (University of Waikato), Anne Feryok (University of Otago) and Stuart Webb (Victoria University of Wellington).

### ***New Zealand Studies in Applied Linguistics***

The second issue of the journal will be available at the beginning of 2010. We have a good number of suitable articles for this issue but would still like to encourage thesis students and their supervisors to consider contributing manuscripts as well as our more seasoned performers.

### **ALANZ Membership**

If you have not renewed your membership for 2009, we would really appreciate it if you could do this as soon as possible. Knowing how many members we have helps with balancing the books, not to mention paying the printer for the last issue of our journal, *New Zealand Studies in Applied Linguistics*. You will find the membership form on the website and you will notice a couple of options for sending your membership fee. You will recall that the membership fee entitles you to two issues of the journal, a discounted rate at the December conference and the opportunity to be an active member of our New Zealand Applied Linguistics community. Membership runs from January to December.

### **Visit the conference website**

Before you forget, check out the website now and enter the key dates in your diary.

John Bitchener  
President ALANZ

20 July 2009