



IALIC Newsletter

March 2014

The International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication

Welcome to the first 2014 Newsletter of IALIC. Here we showcase some of the activities and developments that IALIC offers to keep you informed of upcoming events in the interdisciplinary field of languages, and intercultural communication and education.

IALIC – Words from the President

IALIC continues to expand its impact and reach, supported by the engagement and research activity of its members. The IALIC community is just that—a community of scholars, researchers, and teachers who enjoy researching and teaching about languages in their many and varied contexts and manifestations, and how culture and intercultural encounters are understood, constructed, contested, and negotiated in ever more complex and dynamic ways. IALIC remains the central place for research and conversations about the nature and complexity of languages and intercultural communication in contemporary society.

At the last IALIC committee meeting in November (prior to the conference in Hong Kong), the Board members updated the aims of IALIC and these were ratified at the AGM held during the conference. This task had not been done since the initial aims were written at IALIC's inception in 1999. What surprised the Board members was how little the aims had changed in all this time. However, a few minor changes were made, and the updated aims are as follows:

2.1 The Association will provide support to scholars in their academic life within the field of Languages and Intercultural Communication, and will promote Languages and Intercultural Communication as an academic field.

2.2 The Association will seek to bring together international scholars and practitioners from a broad range of disciplinary backgrounds, among which are anthropology, sociolinguistics, psychology, education, literary studies, management and organisation studies, as well as linguistics and applied linguistics. In so doing, it will seek to:

2.2.1 create the conditions for a body of intellectual enquiry which intersects consciously, critically and reflectively with other disciplines;

2.2.2 represent the living reality of experiences of increased mobility and intercultural communication, as well as addressing the professional concerns brought about by the diversity of the research and the teaching of living languages;

2.2.3 promote in theory and practice greater intercultural understanding and, thereby, address the causes and the consequences of culture, all types of intolerance, social injustice, exclusion, inequalities, etc.

We look forward to welcoming you all, including researchers new to IALIC, to the next IALIC conference in Aveiro, Portugal, 28th - 30th November, 2014.

Prue Holmes



IALIC Board Membership

The IALIC Board serves the IALIC community. We welcome your ideas, suggestions, and input into IALIC activities. IALIC holds an annual general meeting at its annual conference, which is usually in November, and members are welcome to attend and participate in this meeting.

The board is currently made up of the following members:

Chair: Prue Holmes, Durham University, England

Vice Chair: Veronica Crosbie, Dublin City University, Ireland

Secretary: María José Coperías, University of Valencia, Spain

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Vivien Zhou, Edinburgh-Napier University, Scotland

Journal Representative: Malcolm MacDonald, University of Warwick, England

Communications Officers: Helen O'Sullivan, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland; Doris Fetscher, University of Zwickau, Germany

Members:

Mike Berry, University of Turku, Finland

Maria Dasli, Edinburgh University, Scotland

Hans Ladegaard, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

Shanta Nair-Venugopal, National University of Malaysia

John O'Regan, Institute of Education, University of London, England

Jane Wilkinson, The University of Leeds, England

The Board also includes co-opted members who join for a designated period.

IALIC – Changes in the Board

At the last IALIC committee meeting, our long-term treasurer and membership secretary, Dr Maria Dasli, resigned from her post. Maria had held this role for several years and worked hard for the Association in reminding members to renew their annual membership and introducing new members. She also performed an excellent job in managing IALIC finances, ensuring the financial strength of IALIC. We are very grateful to Maria for all the work she has done for IALIC and we will miss her in this role. Maria will stay on the Board as an IALIC committee member.

Maria is succeeded by Dr Vivien Zhou, Edinburgh Napier University. We are delighted that Vivien is taking up this role and welcome her to it. We also thank Maria for her continued work in IALIC as she mentors Vivien into the role.



International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication

Membership of IALIC and email list

IALIC continues to welcome new members who are researching and teaching in the area of languages and intercultural communication. If you need to update your membership, please contact the Treasurer and Memberships Secretary, Vivien Zhou V.Zhou@napier.ac.uk. You can also download the membership form from the IALIC website and submit a renewal or application yourself. Membership includes a free subscription to the Association's journal *Language in Intercultural Communication* which has four issues annually.

The IALIC website <http://ialic.net/> is the international meeting point where you can find information about IALIC events, other international conferences and meetings, publications, research activities and events, job announcements, and anything else members would like to draw to the attention of the IALIC community of scholars. If you would like to post any related material on the website, please contact the communication officers, Helen O'Sullivan hosulliv@tcd.ie and Doris Fetcher Doris.Fetscher@fh-zwickau.de.

If you would like to receive regular updates on IALIC activities and related events, then please join the IALIC email list. You can do this yourself by going to:

<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?AO=IALIC>.

If you are unsure about how to subscribe, please contact Helen O'Sullivan or Doris Fetscher.

LAIC (Language & Intercultural Communication) – the Association's Journal

Language & Intercultural Communication (LAIC), the Association journal published by Taylor Francis, is now in its 14th volume. All IALIC members receive four free issues of the journal per year as part of their membership. The first issue of this volume, *Intercultural dialogue: current challenges, future directions*, guest edited by Prue Holmes, Melinda Dooly and John O'Regan, was published in February and features papers selected from the Durham conference. This issue also saw the John O'Regan's departure from the editor's chair. After working together for the past three years, I am grateful for his companionship, intellectual rigour and criticality. The editor's chair feels a lonelier place without him.

Volume 14 has also seen a major extension of the International Advisory Board for the journal. We are very grateful to the following for offering their endorsement of the journal, and adding a greater diversity and even more intellectual firepower to an already powerful Board: Jan Blommaert (Tilburg University), Donal Carbaugh (University of Massachusetts), John Corbett (University of Macau), Robert Crawshaw (University of Lancaster), Lynn Mario T. Menezes de Souza (University of Sao Paulo), Evelyn Glaser (University of Linz), Janet Holmes (Victoria University of Wellington), Adrian Holliday (Canterbury Christchurch University), Gavin Jack (Latrobe University), Jane Jackson (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Adam Jaworksci (Hong Kong University), Kumiko Murata (Waseda University), Tope Omoniye (Roehampton



International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication

University), Alice Tomic (Richmond University), Boaventura de Sousa Santos (University of Coimbra), Farzad Sharifian (Monash University) and Shi Xu (Zhejiang University).

Issue 14.2 of the journal is currently in press and hard copy will be appearing in your letter boxes shortly. This is an open issue, which features papers which authors have submitted through the journal portals over the past year. However if you are feeling impatient, most of these papers can now be accessed through advanced online publication. The issue moves from accounts of the cultural separation that can challenge the communication, mutual understanding and sociality to descriptions of creative and courageous approaches to raising intercultural awareness and mutual understanding. Papers featured in LAIC 14.2 are:

- Constructing the cultural 'other': Prejudice and intergroup conflict in university students' discourses about 'the other' (Ladegaard & Cheng);
- Borrowed words, mock language, and nationalism in Canada (Vessey);
- Exploring 'new' interculturality online (Dervin);
- Students' intercultural development through language learning in Vietnamese tertiary education: A case study on the use of film as an innovative approach (Tran & Truong);
- Developing the intercultural perspective in foreign language teaching in Colombia: A review of six journals (Alvarez Valencia);
- Intercultural citizenship education in an EFL (English as a Foreign Language) online project in Argentina (Porto).

Those papers not already released on advanced online publishing are being mounted as I write. We are grateful also to Alexandra Schmidt, Vera Busse and Christine Penman for their book reviews. If you fancy reviewing a book – a good entree to publishing for postgraduates in particular – contact our reviews editor, Melinda Dooly (melindaann.dooly@uab.cat).

Coming up, we have a bumper special issue (14.3) entitled *Migrating Languages: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Refugees, Asylum and Migration* guest edited by Alison Phipps and Rebecca Kay. This will be followed by another open issue to conclude this volume (14.4). Then Volume 15 opens with a special issue featuring papers selected from the Association conference held in November 2013 in Hong Kong (15.1), where the annual board meeting of the journal was held three months ago.

We welcome submission of articles relating to language and intercultural communication. For submission details please see the journal website and save this link in your web browser: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rmli20>. Good quality papers submitted now will still have a chance of getting published by the end of this year in 14.4. If you have a proposal for a special issue that you want to put forward, please contact me with a one-side outline of the theme and possible contents (m.n.macdonald@warwick.ac.uk). We currently have special issues lined up until 2016, as a special issue can take a couple of years from the initial call to publication.

Malcolm N. MacDonald (Editor, LAIC)



IALIC last Conference:

Language and Intercultural Communication in the Workplace: Critical Approaches to Theory and Practice (Hong Kong)

From 29 November – 1 December 2013, Hong Kong Baptist University hosted the 13th international IALIC conference. The conference theme was “Language and Intercultural Communication in the Workplace: Critical Approaches to Theory and Practice”, and conference conveners were Hans Ladegaard from Hong Kong Baptist University and Chris Jenks from City University of Hong Kong. More than 100 papers were delivered during the 3-day conference, which attracted around 150 delegates from all over the world. It was only the second time the conference was held in Asia and this time, one of the focus areas was non-Western approaches to languages and intercultural communication research.

Conference delegates discussed how Anglo-American modes of discourse are now prevalent even when other languages are used. In Hong Kong and many other Asian contexts, for example, students and employees are typically assessed on their ability to speak fluent English, and to be proactive, vocal, innovative, critical etc. - concepts which are largely Western.

Whether we use English or other languages in the workplace, our ideas about what ‘good’ communication is are largely influenced by Western ideas, and conference delegates discussed how teachers and managers could explore ways in which workplace communication could be more informed by non-Western paradigms. While globalisation all over the world now means the use of lingua-franca English, what can be changed is how workplaces allow people to express themselves in ways that are appropriately aligned with their cultural tradition.

Special Issue of *Language and Intercultural Communication*

Selected papers from IALIC-2013 will be published in a Special Issue of *Language and Intercultural Communication*. Paper presenters are invited to submit full papers to the co-editors of the Special Issue, Hans Ladegaard (hansla@hkbu.edu.hk) and Chris Jenks (sjjenks@cityu.edu.hk). Papers must address (some aspect of) the conference theme, and authors must follow the style sheet and publication guidelines of the journal carefully. Deadline for submission of papers is 31 March 2014.

Hans Ladegaard

IALIC next Conference

28-30 November 2014, University of Aveiro – Portugal

Conference Co-convenors: Maria Helena Araújo e Sá and Ana Raquel Simões

The next IALIC conference, to be hosted by the University of Aveiro, Portugal, promises to be another huge success, following in the wake of the 2013 Hong Kong conference. The conference theme will explore language, multilingual, and intercultural repertoires in



education. Further details of the conference theme, keynote speakers, and calls for abstracts will be available soon via the IALIC website and circulated via the IALIC mailing list. The first call usually closes in late June, and the second call closes in September. As usual, there will be a special issue of the Association's journal *Language and Intercultural Communication*, where the best papers from the conference will be published.

Research Projects: Researching Multilingually at the Borders of Language, the Body, Law and the State

The Arts and Humanities Research Council Translating Cultures Programme has announced the award of one of its three large grants of £2 Million to the project, *Researching Multilingually*, led by Professor Alison Phipps, University of Glasgow, GRAMNet. The project runs for 3 years, starting 1st April, 2014.

The project has two overarching aims:

- 1) to research interpreting, translation and multilingual practices in challenging contexts, and,
- 2) *while doing so*, to evaluate appropriate research methods (traditional and arts based) and develop theoretical approaches for this type of academic exploration.

An international team of researchers with different disciplinary backgrounds, research experiences, different languages and performance skills will conduct international comparative research on translation and interpretation at different kinds of border in order to develop theory, ethical research practices and research methodologies in relation to multilingual research.

Researchers Dr Prue Holmes from Durham University, Dr Richard Fay University of Manchester, Dr Jane Andrews, University of the West of England, Dr Karin Zwaan, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, Dr David Gramling and Dr Chantelle Warner, University of Arizona, U.S.A., Dr Nazmi Al Masri, Islamic University Gaza, and Dr Robert Gibb, Sarah Craig and Dr Ross White from the University of Glasgow will come together with artists from Pan African Arts Scotland to work on five original case studies and to consider the methods and modes of representation of multilingual research experience. They will be joined by postdoctoral researchers Dr Mariam Attia and Dr Katja Frimberger. The project is lead by Professor Alison Phipps, OBE, of Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network, and the School of Education, University of Glasgow.

As well as investigating five unique case studies in law, mental health, on the borders of Romania and Bulgaria, in rural Arizona and in the Gaza Strip, the researchers will consider the different methodologies in play when multilingual research is undertaken from different disciplinary perspectives. Through Pan African Arts Scotland they will also work with the arts as a language of research and representation of those aspects which are unsayable, with a final artistic production being developed drawing together the themes of the research, working with Tawona Sithole, artist and playwright.



The new project draws on the Researching Multilingually network grant, and the Translation and Asylum Claims network grant both also previously funded under the Translating Cultures theme. It also builds on work undertaken through the TEMPUS project *Life Long Learning in Palestine*, through the AHRC-SFC 'Healthier Scotland' project and through the AHRC's previous Diasporas, Identities and Migration programme. It also works in collaboration with project partners, Creative Scotland and The Scottish Refugee Council as well as many NGO and policy organisations working in the field.

Theme Leadership Fellow for Translating Cultures, Professor Charles Forsdick commented "These three awards will expand and enhance the ambitious research already conducted under the 'Translating Cultures' theme. They will provide urgently needed contributions, from an Arts and Humanities perspective, to our understanding of some of the most pressing issues in the twenty-first-century world: multilingualism, mobility, and the crossing of borders. The aim in each project is to interrogate, analyse and demonstrate the central place of languages and culture in contemporary life, whether in localized contexts or in wider globalized frames. Central to each is an active engagement with a range of partners beyond academia, as well as collaboration with international networks of scholars. These projects will transform academic and public understanding of the theories and practices of translation and interpreting in innovative, exciting and, I anticipate, often unexpected ways."

Alison Phipps

Recently published books on language and intercultural communication

Exploring Intercultural Communication. Language in Action by Zhu Hua, 2013. Routledge, 280 pp. Pbk: £24. ISBN 978-0-415-58551-4; Hdbk: £90. ISBN 978-0-415-58550-7.

Exploring Intercultural Communication investigates the role of language in intercultural communication, paying particular attention to the interplay between cultural diversity and language practice.

This book brings together current or emerging strands and themes in the field by examining how intercultural communication permeates our everyday life, what we can do to achieve effective and appropriate intercultural communication, and why we study language, culture and identity together. The focus is on interactions between people from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and regards intercultural communication as a process of negotiating meaning, cultural identities, and – above all – differences between ourselves and others.

It includes case studies that invite students to a deeper understanding of intercultural negotiations that occur in real world situations (in the workplace, the family, the classroom, and travel).



International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication

Tourism and the Power of Otherness. Seductions of Difference by David Picard and Michael A. Di Giovine, 2014. Bristol, UK: Channel View Publications, 216 pp., 115€ (Hdbk), ISBN 18 978-1-84541-416-0

This book explores the paradoxes of Self–Other relations in the field of tourism. It particularly focuses on the 'power' of different forms of 'Otherness' to seduce and to disrupt, and, eventually, also to renew the social and cosmological orders of 'modern' culture and everyday life. Drawing on a series of ethnographic case studies, the contributors investigate the production, socialisation and symbolic encompassment of different 'Others' as a political and also an economic resource to govern social life in the present. The volume provides a comparative inductive study on the modernist philosophical concepts of time, 'Otherness', and the self in practice, and relates it to contemporary tourism and mobility.

Young Children as Intercultural Mediators. Mandarin-speaking Chinese Families in Britain by Zhiyan Guo. 2014 (forthcoming July). Multilingual Matters, 232 pp. Pbk 39.95€. ISBN 978-1-78309-212-3.

This multidisciplinary approach to cultural mediation brings together insights from anthropology, sociology, linguistics and intercultural communication to offer a detailed depiction of family life in immigrant Chinese communities. Utilising a strongly contextualised and evidence-based narrative approach to exploring the nature of child cultural mediation, the author provides an insightful analysis of intercultural relationships between children and parents in immigrant families and of the informative aspects of their everyday lives. Furthermore, the family home setting offers the reader a glimpse of a personal territory that researchers often have great difficulty accessing. This ethnographic study will be of interest to students, researchers and professionals working in the areas of intercultural communication, childhood studies, family relations and migration studies.

Introducing Language and Intercultural Communication by Jane Jackson, 2014. Routledge, 414 pp. Hdbk £90.00, ISBN 9780415601986; Pbk £24.99, ISBN 978-0-41560-199-3

Introducing Language and Intercultural Communication is an accessible introduction for undergraduates who are new to the area of intercultural communication. It provides real-life examples from around the world by drawing on current research. The book gives strong argument against cultural stereotyping by ensuring that students are shown a skill-building framework to enhance understanding of the complexities of language and intercultural communication in diverse international settings. Readers will learn to understand and become aware of power relations, positioning and the impact of social and political forces on language choice and the intercultural communication process. This is the essential text for undergraduate students studying courses in intercultural communication for the first time.

By Melinda Dooly



**International Association for
Languages and Intercultural Communication**

In closing...

If you have anything you would like to add to the next newsletter in 3 or 4 months time, or anything you would like to pass on to the Association, then please email María José Coperías, the IALIC Secretary (María.J.Coperias@uv.es).