

MAAL

MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS NEWSLETTER



Editorial Preface

By Newsletter Team

Greetings and welcome to our very own exciting in-house newsletter for Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics (MAAL)!!! The newsletter serves as a catalyst and actualization of keeping MAAL members connected on recent headway and happenings in Applied Linguistics in Malaysia. With the inception of MAAL EXCO Committee on 3rd December 2018, the Editorial team captured the different voices of members from all chapters in Malaysia. Thank you all for this!!! Our feature begins with a word from Prof Azirah Hashim who voice her resounding convictions and aspiration as Vice-President of AILA. Congratulations Prof Azirah, indeed the MAAL family is very proud and happy to see you as our first Asian woman holding the said position. MAAL is equally humbled with International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA) and the President, Prof. Dr. Daniel Perrin for graciously upkeeping us with AILA and her European developments. This feature also captures the voice of the President of MAAL, Prof Shameem Rafik-Galea, a prolific figure in Applied Linguistics to share her vision, aspirations and wish for MAAL. In this light, the MAAL Exco also captured the who's who of the MAAL organizational chart to know who needs to carry the baton for the year 2018 – 2020 ☺. Not to be missed are a kaleidoscope of current initiatives from the lenses of all EXCO members in their own foray. Scenes from 2018 are captured to share the exciting melting moments of the Conference (title) and MAAL-SAAL-TAAL Talk. We have also neatly tucked a user-friendly membership registration QR Scan for your immediate membership registration or renewal. So be a part of the MAAL family as we look forward to hearing from you next!!! We hope you enjoy the sights, happenings and stories from us all. Till then, happy reading!!!

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(PROF. DR. SHAMEEM
RAFIK-GALEA)**

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SCENES OF 2018

Greetings from MAAL President (2018-2020)

Prof. Dr. Shameem Rafik Galea

Greetings! Welcome to the Inaugural issue of our MAAL Newsletter. I wish to congratulate Dr Ena... and her team... for this new beginning.

On behalf of the MAAL Executive committee, I would like to thank all our MAAL members for your membership and participation in MAAL.

The Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics (MAAL) is an interdisciplinary organisation committed to advancing Applied linguistics research, education, and practice. MAAL aims to facilitate research and education in the advancement and dissemination of knowledge and understanding regarding language-related issues in order to improve the lives of individuals and marginalised societies and communities and in doing so aligns itself to the Sustainable Development Goals as outlined by UNESCO to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

MAAL takes pride in the fact that it welcomes memberships from both professional scholars, educators and industry practitioners. Our membership encompasses not only applied linguists but also communication, management and language consultants, trainers and professional practitioners.

MAAL is an affiliate of AILA and we are proud to announce that Professor Azirah Hashim of University of Malaya will be the next President of AILA. Congratulations Professor Azirah!

We wish to inform our members that MAAL has a close relationship with SAAL – The Singapore Association of Applied Linguistics and TAAL- The Thai Association of Applied Linguistics and that we are working towards an ASEAN network of like-minded people in the field.

I have full faith that together with you, we will combine the energy and the excitement of bringing MAAL to greater heights with a large membership. We at MAAL would like to take this opportunity to wish you happy holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you for all your support and trust in MAAL! God Bless.



WORD FROM PAST PRESIDENT (MAAL)

by Prof. Dr. Azirah Hashim

I wish to congratulate warmly and to welcome the new MAAL leadership, headed by Professor Shameem Rafik Galea and her colleagues. MAAL has had a relatively short but eventful history. It started in 2013 after discussions with key people in the field: the late Professor Christopher Candlin, Professor Vijay Bhatia, and Professor Daniel Perrin among others, and with the encouragement and support of the President of the Singapore Association of Applied Linguistics, Professor Low Ee Ling. At the end of that year MAAL was launched at the University of Malaya and the inaugural MAAL-SAAL symposium - which rotates on a yearly basis between Malaysia and Singapore – took place. MAAL also became an affiliate of the International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA) and was represented at AILA meetings in different parts of the world.

Following the symposium with SAAL, MAAL began to organise workshops and seminars in collaboration with different Malaysian universities. The inaugural MAAL conference was held in December in 2018. By that time, membership had increased to about 200 with members from several universities, both public and private.

The themes MAAL has focused on have been wide ranging. It proceeds on the basis of the AILA definition that:

Applied Linguistics is an interdisciplinary field of research and practice dealing with practical problems of language and communication that can be identified, analysed or solved by applying available theories, methods and results of Linguistics or by developing new theoretical and methodological frameworks in Linguistics to work on these problems. Applied Linguistics differs from Linguistics in general mainly with respect to its explicit orientation towards practical, everyday problems



Word from Former Vice-President on AILA Asean 1st Quarter Happenings

by Prof. Azirah Hashim

On 3 December 2018, the AILA ASEAN Network was launched at the Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics International Conference 2018, the theme of which was Applied Linguistics and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Language, Communication and the Professions.

ASEAN comprises ten countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, seven of whom were represented at the launch. A panel to discuss applied linguistics in ASEAN and the MAAL-SAAL-TAAL symposium were also held at this conference. AILA ASEAN is part of an AILA initiative that has seen a number of regional networks established over the years. The new network will facilitate people-to-people connectivity in the field of applied linguistics in South East Asia, thereby promoting one of ASEAN's foremost goals. By collaborating with other AILA affiliates on a trans-national approach to cross-border challenges, the network will assist in promoting regional and inter-regional cooperation in pursuit of sustainable solutions.

Another AILA ASEAN panel will be held at the English in Southeast Asia conference in Singapore on 6-8 December 2019. Representatives from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines and Laos will each present current research in applied linguistics in their own country. At this conference, a meeting will also be held to discuss how AILA ASEAN can strengthen ties and collaboration in research and activities related to applied linguistics.



Activities/Projects/ Conferences

by S. Saabdev Kumar & Dr. Ena

Date: 2nd July 2019

Workshop: Communication Spheres & 3M Proposal Defense Workshop

Venue: CETaL, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP)

Guest of Honor : Professor Dr. Shameem Begum Bt Mohd Rafik Khan @ SHAMEEM RAFIK-GALEA

Speakers: AP Dr Nor Fariza Mohd Nor, Datin Dr Nor Hafizah Ismail and Dr Ena Bhattacharyya

On 2nd July 2019, a workshop titled Communication Spheres & 3M Proposal Defense Workshop was held at UTP. The session saw the opportune collaboration and pooling of expertise from the Department of Management and Humanities, Centre for Social Transformation for Sustainable Lifestyles (CSS), Institute of Self-Sustainable Building (ISB), UTP and Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics (MAAL). Sharing was also done on ways of engaging the audience during a 3 Minute research defense proposal defense. Students were also highlighted on branding their output from an industry perspective. Prof Shameem also introduced MAAL and AILA to the participants. Sincere appreciation to Prof Shameem Rafik-Galea, AP Dr Nor Fariza and Datin Dr Nor Hafizah who were instrumental in materializing the session. Sincere thanks is also accorded to the Chair of Management and Humanities Department, AP Dr Lai Fong Woon, Institute of Self-Sustaining Building Director, AP Dr Noor Amila, Language Unit Head, Dr Hairuzila bt Idrus, Director of Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETaL) & Head of Centre for Social Transformation for Sustainable Lifestyles (CSS), Dr Subarna Sivapalan and all for their kind support in the organisation of the event. Dr Ena Bhattacharyya was also assisted by a committee of postgraduate students from UTP. This time around there was an increase in the number of participants. It is hoped that such sessions can be repeated in future.





Date: 3-4 December 2018

Conference: Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics International Conference (MAALIC 2018)

Theme: Applied Linguistics and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Language, Communication and the Professions

Venue: Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur







Scenes of 2018

by Maxwell & Aliyah

Official Launching of the AILA ASEAN Network by Prof Daniel Perrin, AILA President, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland, Prof Azirah Hashim, AILA Vice President and MAAL President, representatives from the 6 ASEAN countries present - Lao PDR, Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, Philippines and Thailand.

On 3 December 2018, the AILA ASEAN Network was launched at the Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics International Conference 2018, the theme of which was Applied Linguistics and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Language, Communication and the Professions. ASEAN comprises ten countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, seven of whom were represented at the launch. AILA ASEAN is part of an AILA initiative that has seen a number of regional networks established over the years. The new network will facilitate people-to-people connectivity in the field of applied linguistics in South East Asia, thereby promoting one of ASEAN's foremost goals. Given the common issues in Applied Linguistics in the region and more widely, AILA ASEAN will strengthen collaboration in regional and inter-regional activities, including the mobility of practitioners in the field. The network will be a platform for applied linguists to discuss regional and global issues on the basis of a transdisciplinary approach to shared problems. By collaborating with other AILA affiliates on a trans-national approach to cross-border challenges, the network will assist in promoting regional and inter-regional cooperation in pursuit of sustainable solutions.



