

**NASFLA's Beginnings:**

**Organizational Meeting of the  
North American Systemic Functional Linguistics Association**

**7:30 p.m., April 8, 2002**

**Smoke House Room, Sheraton City Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.**

Convening: During a convention of the American Association of Applied Linguistics, a group of systemic functional linguists gathered to form a new regional group. It would be the seventh regional group, after Europe, Japan, China, Australia, France, and Nigeria. Nan Fries had e-mailed notices of this intention to a list of more than 200 North Americans who had expressed an interest in Systemic Functional Linguistics. She instructed them to let her know if they did not want to be considered members of the proposed organization, but none of them did so.

Those signing the register as present included the following:

Acton, Bill  
Beckett, Gulbahar  
Chapelle, Carol  
Conrad, Susan  
Cortes, Viviana  
Crawford, Mary Ann  
Fang, Zhihui  
Forest, Richard  
Fries, Nan  
Fries, Peter  
Hartnett, Carolyn  
Hazelrigg, Cecilia  
Jones, Alan  
Kobayashi, Emi  
Kobayashi, Masaki  
Liang, Xiaoping  
Luo, Lynn Yu  
Miller, Tom  
Mohan, Bernie  
Queniart, Jacqueline

Sueyoshi, Akiyo  
Takasa, Maiko  
Yang, Luxin  
Youmans, Madeleine

Peter and Nan Fries and Bernie Mohan posted an agenda and led discussion.

#### 1. Possible Projects

- a. Individual bibliographies from members' classes to be posted on a NASFLA web site. (Eventually these might be annotated.)
- b. SFL course for [distance learning](#)
- c. Colloquia at various conferences

#### 2. Constitution

After a draft was posted, discussed, and revised, Peter Fries moved to adopt it, and Bernie Mohan seconded the motion. It received unanimous approval and is appended to these minutes.

#### 3. Election of officers

Volunteers were requested and names of nominees were posted:

President: Bernie Mohan (Past Chair, ISFC)

Vice President: Nan Fries (Membership Secretary, ISFC)

Secretary: Carolyn Hartnett (Acting Recording Secretary, ISFC)

Web Site Coordinator: Michael Cummings  
(North American Representative, ISFC)

Newsletter Editor: (None named for now, but a volunteer was requested.)

Other Volunteers: As needed and available

Peter Fries moved the election of the list, Madeline Youmans seconded the motion, and approval was unanimous.

#### 4. Other Business

Where to meet: Possibilities include during meetings of the ISFLA, American Association of Applied Linguistics, National Council of Teachers of English, and Conference on College Composition and Communication. Also suggested were the

World Englishes Conference in October at [the University](#) of Illinois and one three-day weekend during the Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, which will be held at Michigan State University in 2003.

Further suggestions included these:

Meetings of the board can take place via e-mail.

Minutes should be posted on e-mail list and on web site.

Terms of officers will be staggered after we get under way.

Everyone should be thinking of projects the organization can undertake.

Bibliographies and news of publications should be sent to Michael Cummings immediately for posting on a web site <mcummings@glendon.yourku.ca>

Further discussion:

ISFLA will be meeting in Liverpool in July and in Brazil in 2006.

The new Continuum book catalog has been published; it includes a new ten-volume edition of works by [Michael Halliday](#).

Reservations had been made for members to have dinner together in the hotel immediately after the close of this meeting.

Participants introduced themselves, and Bernie Mohan adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Hartnett, Secretary, NASFLA