The North America Systemic Functional Linguistics Association The

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| **The North America Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Newsletter**  **March 2007 Number 8**  **Invitation to NAFSLA Dinner/Business meeting at AAAL 2007**   The 13th annual dinner for Systemicists and other interested people will be held beginning at 8:00 PM (after the President's Reception) Monday evening, April 23 at the Clubhouse. 3333 East Bristol, [South Coast Plaza](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Coast_Plaza), Costa Mesa.  We are told the restaurant is about a 20 minute walk from the hotel. If this is too far for you to walk, we suggest combining to get a cab. Perhaps gathering at the entrance to the reception at about 7:30 would help you get cabs in groups. Please RSVP to Nan and Peter Fries **peterhfries@cs.com** by  March 30.    **Systemic** [**Functional Linguistics**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Functional_theories_of_grammar) **at the Joint Conference of AAAL and ACLA/CAAL in Montreal, Quebec, Canada**  **June 17 - 20, 2006**     |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | The meeting of the American Association of Applied Linguistics (organized together with the Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics, CAAL, last June) presented plenty of opportunity for Systemicists to get acquainted with the current state of the field and share perspectives. John Sinclair and Gordon Wells delivered two plenary sessions that related to issues addressed in  SFL  In addition, the conference program included an  Invited colloquium organized by Heidi Byrnes, |   Georgetown University, entitled *Foreign/second language acquisition as meaning-making: A systemic-functional approach,* with James. R. Martin, University of Sydney, Heidi Byrnes, Georgetown University, Prof. Kazuhiro Teruya, University New South Wales and M. Cecilia Colombi, [The University](http://www.seasonaldesigns.com/) of California, Davis, as featured speakers. This colloquium considered the potential of systemic-functional linguistics (SFL), as a meaning-focused theory of language, for offering insights into foreign/ [second language learning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_language_acquisition) and teaching. It explored genre as a construct for organizing L2 instruction, a meaning-based approach to grammar, and foci and forms of pedagogy for diverse learner groups and levels.  Two other colloquia related to SFL were presented at the conference. The first one, submitted by Sue Hood, University of Technology, Sydney, entitled *Analysing evaluation in academic discourse: Juxtaposing contexts, questions and methods in search of new directions for research,* with presenters Betty Samraj, [San Diego State University](http://www.milliken.com/), Susan Hood, University of Technology, Sydney, Maggie Charles, Oxford University Language Center, UK, and Mary J. Schleppegrell, University of Michigan and Heidi Byrnes as a discussant. The other colloquium was submitted by Bernie Moham, University of British Columbia, Canada, and focused on *The Textual Metafunction and Genre Structure within Systemic Functional Grammar: Theoretical Developments and Practical Implications.* The presenters in this case were Peter H. Fries, Central [Michigan University](http://FinanceReports.co/), Geoff Williams, University of British Columbia, and Jessica De Villiers, University of British Columbia. This colloquium discussed the importance of text goals involving the Textual Metafunction (Theme/Rheme, Given/New, Cohesion) which analyses of genre structure have generally not addressed.  **Upcoming presentations**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | This year the Conference for the American Association of Applied Linguistics at the Hilton Hotel in [Costa Mesa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Costa_Mesa,_California). California, on April 21-24. (Visit the AAAL website [http://www.aaal.org](http://www.aaal.org/) for more information). Several Systemicists will be presenting their research at this meeting. |   This is a list of some of the presentations by Systemicists at AAAL ’07 (in chronological order). Please check the AAAL schedule before attending a session, in case there are last minute room changes. The presenters and the NASFLA community would love to see you all there.  **Bernard Mohan**, University of British Columbia, and Jingzi Huang, Monmouth University, [*A Functional Approach to Assessing Student Discourse and the Integration of Language, Content and Culture in an Elementary Chinese Program*](http://clear.msu.edu/tripleal/scripts/viewproposal.php?_ID=188), Saturday, April 21, 3:10 pm – 3:40 pm, Hilton Costa Mesa: Pacific Ballroom IV  [**Jay Lemke**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jay_Lemke), University of Michigan, [*Transmedia Meaning-Making: Discourse beyond Text*](http://clear.msu.edu/tripleal/scripts/viewproposal.php?_ID=1138), Saturday, April 21, 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm, Hilton Costa Mesa: Pacific Ballroom IV  **Viviana Cortes**, Iowa State University, [*A comparative study of lexical bundles in history writing in English and Spanish*](http://clear.msu.edu/tripleal/scripts/viewproposal.php?_ID=127), Sunday, April 22, 8:15 am - 8:45 am, Hilton Costa Mesa: Newport I  **Betty Samraj**, [San Diego State University](http://www.milliken.com/), [*Intertextuality in discussion sections of master's theses and research articles*](http://clear.msu.edu/tripleal/scripts/viewproposal.php?_ID=890). Tuesday, April 24, 9:25 am - 9:55 am, Hilton Costa Mesa: Newport I |
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