



# CANBERRA REGION LANGUAGES FORUM UPDATE

November 2021

## LOCAL NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

### 1. ANU Language Teaching Forum (LTF)

#### Bridging the gap between pronunciation research and teaching practice

- Monday 8 November 4.15-5pm
- Online via Zoom (see link below)
- Free and all welcome!

In this final LTF meeting for 2021, Dr Solene Inceoglu will give a short overview of research on pronunciation instruction that has been conducted in laboratory as well as in face-to-face (F2F) and online classroom settings and then show how findings from this research informs pronunciation teaching practice by discussing concrete examples of activity types in the F2F and online classroom as well as showing web-based applications.

#### About the Language Teaching Forum

The LTF provides a platform for language teachers and researchers at the ANU as well as teachers from schools and community schools in Canberra and Canberra region to share their language teaching experiences and reflections, research studies, and pedagogical practices.

If you are not on the LTF mailing list but would like to join, please email Dr Yanyin Zhang at [yanyin.zhang@anu.edu.au](mailto:yanyin.zhang@anu.edu.au).

Zoom link for Monday's presentation:

- <https://anu.zoom.us/j/99619277895?pwd=b2tFTkhpckRTTHZUS2EzbiUzZFBMZz09>
- Meeting ID: 996 1927 7895 Password: 887096

### 2. Canberra Academy of Languages (CAL)

#### Enrolling now for 2022

CAL is now accepting enrolments for Year 11 and 12 programs commencing in 2022 in French, German, Japanese, Spanish and Tamil. Additional programs in Arabic, Indonesian, Hindi, Italian and Korean may be available. If you are interested, please contact CAL before 12 November if possible. For details see: <https://cal.act.edu.au/index.htm#enrolment>.

#### Japanese Summer School

For students preparing to commence senior secondary Japanese studies at Continuing level. This bridging program is designed for those who have completed some prior study (in or out of school) and would like to find out whether they can benefit from a course at Continuing level. It will improve confidence and mastery in areas normally covered through the Australian Curriculum in Years 9-10. The summer school is open to any interested students, whether they intend ongoing studies in their day school or with CAL.

- Online over 3 weeks in January
- 3 hours plus 2 hours of homework each week (total of 15 programmed hours)
- \$250 per student.

More details at <https://cal.act.edu.au/news.htm>

### **3. Spanish Australian Preschool in Redhill**

Opening in January 2022, the Spanish Australian Preschool (SAPS) is now accepting enrolments. SAPS aims to foster understanding of the world through bilingualism and offers a holistic approach to education with experiences planned with the children at the centre of their program. SAPS delivers the Early Years Learning Framework in both Spanish and English, promoting cross-cultural understanding and being inclusive of all cultures.

Parents and children are encouraged to visit the centre for a tour to see SAPS facilities, get to know their community, and hear about their orientation and enrolment process. For more information see <https://spanishaustralianpreschool.com.au/>

### **4. ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA)**

#### Celebration of Languages

Over 100 people registered for this event organised by ACTBEA on Saturday 16 October. Officially opened by the ACT Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Tara Cheyne, the event aimed to promote awareness and interest in some of the many languages being spoken and learned in Canberra and how to find out more about them. The program comprised six 30-minute panel discussions, with over 20 presenters sharing their knowledge and experiences about Aboriginal languages, languages from the Indian subcontinent, languages and scripts from East Asia, languages from Europe, interpreting and translating, and Canberra's mother tongue poets.

Links to a video recording of the opening session and the six panel sessions are available on <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/events.html>

#### Sharing Languages and Cultures

ACTBEA received an amazing range of entries for this free competition for local students from preschool to Year 12. The entries showcased our young people's skills and creative ideas in 15 different languages: Cantonese, Danish, English, Farsi, German, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Spanish and Tamil.

When judging is complete, results will be posted on <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/news.html>, together with links to the winning entries (subject to parental permission). For a sneak peek at two of the outstanding entries, see the videos in the Opening Session of the Celebration of Languages on <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/events.html>

### **5 Further delay to release of Review of Investment in ACT Community Language Schools**

In a motion agreed to by the Legislative Assembly in early August 2021, the ACT government undertook to table the Review report and its recommendations and to respond to these by 31 October 2021. This motion has since been amended due to redeployment of Directorate staff in response to the COVID lockdown, and the Review is now due to be tabled by 31 December, probably in the last sitting week of the year.

### **6. Locally organised Conferences and Symposium**

#### New Approaches to Chinese Language Education during and Post COVID 19

- Sunday 7 November 9.30am – 5.30pm
- Online via Zoom (link will be sent after registration)
- Conducted in the English language
- Teachers in the ACT can register free of charge

For more details and to register: [bit.ly/CLTFA2021](http://bit.ly/CLTFA2021)

Organised by the Chinese Language Teachers' Federation of Australia (CLTFA) and Chinese Language Teachers' Association of ACT.

## Multilingualism, culture-language maintenance and education in Asia and the Pacific

This symposium, organised by the ANU School of Culture History and Language, brings together professionals and academics to discuss the complex dynamics of multicultural/multilingual regions and countries in Asia and the Pacific.

- Thursday 18, Friday 19, and Thursday 25 November 2021 9am- 5pm
- Online and free to attend

For program and registration details: <https://cale.anu.edu.au/panel-multilingualism-culture-language-maintenance-and-education-in-asia-and-the-pacific/>

## **OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **7. Supporting Parents and educators of bilingual children**

PEaCH, an EU funded project, offers guidance for parents and educators on how to support, maintain and develop a child's home language(s) and aims to raise educators' awareness of the benefits of bilingualism and home languages. For excellent practical information and resources for parents and educators see

- How to raise a bilingual child: <https://bilingualfamily.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PEaCH-Handbook-eng-rev3.pdf> and
- How to support multilingual children: <https://bilingualfamily.eu/Resources/PEaCH%20for%20educators.pdf>

More details about PEaCH at <https://bilingualfamily.eu/>

### **8. Language friendly schools**

An initiative of the [Rutu Foundation for Intercultural Multilingual Education](#), the vision is for all children to have access to a language friendly-learning environment where they feel accepted and valued for who they are. By allowing students' home languages in school, students get the chance to strengthen their cognitive and social skills – which enhances their chances for a successful school career and integration into the wider society without losing the connection with their families, cultural backgrounds and knowledge.

Language Friendly School does not provide a blueprint of what schools must do but gives ideas for developing a flexible and realistic language plan allowing for incremental changes. All schools are welcome to join. Benefits include access to an online platform to share ideas with other schools on multilingual teaching strategies, with online videos and webinars and the latest research findings.

More information at <https://languagefriendlyschool.org/>

### **9. Upcoming conferences and symposia related to languages education**

#### Growing TESOL in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander context

- Monday 8 November 2021 4.30 - 6 pm
- Free online event

Organised by the Australian Council of TESOL Associations (ACTA) and VicTESOL to Celebrate 30 years of *TESOL in Context*.

For more details and to register:

- <https://mailchi.mp/e15ae698ef5c/tesol-in-context-volume-27-no-6232410?e=f813f70302>

### International Conference on Community/Heritage Language Education

Organised by SICLE (Sydney Institute of Community Languages Education) at the University of Sydney, this conference explores community/heritage language education and its key role in maintaining and developing intergenerational linguistic and cultural understandings. It brings together researchers, school leaders, teachers, community members, parents and students.

- Thursday 11 November to Saturday 13 November
- Online via Zoom
- Cost: \$50 for the 3 days

For key speakers and to register: <http://icchle.org/>

For full program: <http://icchle.org/2021-sicle-conference-event-program/>

### Digital tools for formative assessment practices in EFL tertiary contexts: Bridging the distance between structured and autonomous learning

- Friday 12 November 1-3pm (Canberra time)
- Online via Zoom
- Free to attend
- Presenter: Hoang Thi Linh Giang

For more information and Zoom link: <https://languages-cultures.uq.edu.au/event/session/7451>

The seminar is hosted by UQ School of Languages and Cultures in collaboration with Hue University of Foreign Languages and Hanoi University.

### Decentring and Diversifying Languages and Cultures

Sixth Biennial Colloquium National Colloquium of LCNAU (Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities)

- Wednesday 24 November - Friday 26 November 2021
- Held online
- Cost: \$75 - \$250 (see website for details)

As we continue to adjust to a new (ab)normal reality and to tackle the many challenges faced by an increasingly vulnerable education sector, we invite colleagues to consider critically how the disruption of what it means to teach and research in the field of languages and cultures has been enacted in their own contexts.

For more details and to register: <https://languages-cultures.uq.edu.au/lcnau-2021-colloquium>

Organised by LCNAU and the University of Queensland, School of Languages and Cultures

### The Value of Languages in a Multicultural World

- An online international conference
- Monday 13 - Wednesday 15 December 2021
- Cost \$120, full-time students \$60

Hosted by Multilingualism Research Centre, Macquarie University

For more details: <https://www.multilingualsydney.org/conference-2021>

### **FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME**

Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at  
<https://canberralanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>