

BAAL / Cambridge University Press SEMINAR PROGRAMME 2017-2018

Call for seminar proposals

As part of its commitment to research in Applied Linguistics, BAAL is pleased to announce that financial support from Cambridge University Press and BAAL will be available for up to three seminars in 2017-2018. Cambridge University Press with its interest in promoting [Applied Linguistic research](#) has generously sponsored the annual BAAL / Cambridge University Press Seminar Programme for many years. BAAL now invites proposals for the 2017/18 seminars, in all areas of applied linguistics, to be submitted by **31st October 2017** to Li Li (li.li@exeter.ac.uk). These notes are intended as guidelines for the submission of proposals by seminar co-ordinators. They outline the sort of meeting that BAAL is particularly keen to encourage and the support BAAL can offer.

Financial template

Applicants will need to follow (with modification if necessary) the financial template available on the BAAL website at http://www.baal.org.uk/seminars/seminars_finance.pdf

Structure

BAAL is interested in promoting in-depth discussion of research topics in a format which is different from the opportunities provided at the Annual Meeting and in other seminar programmes.

Members preparing proposals for BAAL / Cambridge University Press seminars should bear in mind the following:

1. Proposals should investigate emergent, timely or relevant methods or topics.
2. Seminar meetings should be small enough that all the participants can interact with each other. We recommend meetings of ideally around 15 – 30 people, although this may vary according to topic and level of interest.
3. They should be held in a place accessible to the majority of members (i.e. they should normally take place in the UK).
4. At least two of these places should normally be reserved for student members of BAAL.
5. Seminar meetings should include an opportunity for people to meet informally. For this reason, two- or even three-day meetings are preferable to one-day, non-residential meetings.
6. Interdisciplinarity is valued - as evidenced, for example, in meetings organized across special interest groups or which are jointly organised with another learned society.
7. Seminar organisers might want to restrict invitations to participate in the seminar to invitees with special expertise. However, if this is the case, then care should be taken that the seminar does not become accessible only to those with detailed specialist knowledge. Organisers should specify whether they plan attendance to be by invitation only and if so should provide reasons for this choice.
8. The co-ordinators should liaise with the BAAL Seminars Organiser to ensure that a representative from the BAAL Executive Committee can attend in some capacity for at least part of the event to present on the work of BAAL. The costs should be considered in budgeting for the event.
9. Innovative formats are welcome.
10. The time allocated to papers / presentations should be long enough for useful discussion to take place afterwards. This probably means not all participants will be able to present papers, and organisers will need to select.
11. The seminar may have concrete academic outcomes – e.g., formation of a group, publication of a monograph. Please specify if you think this will be the case.

Please note - an institutional department is not normally able to apply for funding until two years have elapsed since its last award.

Financial support

Financial support for 3 seminars which are successful in the competition takes the following forms:

- a) a repayable float of £500
- b) a non-repayable grant of £750

Two runners up in the competition for the main funding may be awarded a repayable float of £500.

These grants are intended to be used towards the costs of bookings, insurance, invited speakers, support for postgraduate students and so on. The grants will automatically be made on request to the BAAL Treasurer (Steve Morris at s.morris@swansea.ac.uk) by any seminar organisers whose proposal is adopted for the BAAL / Cambridge University Press seminar programme.

Organisation

Once accepted for BAAL / Cambridge University Press sponsorship, seminar organisers will receive guidelines on the organisation of seminars. At this point, the following should be noted:

- BAAL will advertise any seminars adopted for the programme in its own publicity. Any local publicity should state that the seminar is supported by BAAL and Cambridge University Press.
- BAAL does not expect to make a financial profit out of the seminars, and will not cover any loss made by a seminar. Proper accounts explaining how BAAL grants have been spent will need to be provided to BAAL treasurer Steve Morris. Please note that in the case of the seminar having made a profit, we will require that you balance the accounts by returning money to BAAL.
- Report on the seminar will be required for publication in Language Teaching and in the BAAL newsletter within 4 weeks of the seminar having taken place.

Seminar Proposals

The seminar programme is the subject of an open competition. BAAL members are invited to submit proposals for seminars for the 2017/18 programme by **31st October 2017**. All bids will be scrutinised by the Executive Committee. The results will be announced by January 2018.

Please submit proposals by email. They should not exceed 2000 words in total and should include:

- *Seminar Title*
- *Date*
- *Place*
- *Name / Institution of Seminar Co-ordinator(s) (only proposals submitted by BAAL members can be considered)*
- *Full contact details (email and postal addresses and telephone number)*
- *Objectives of the seminar*
- *Rationale (up to 300-400 words only)*
- *Organisation*
 - *numbers – organisers are encouraged to be realistic about likely numbers and particularly to avoid over-estimating likely interest*
 - *participants – e.g., by invitation or application, keynote speakers, etc.*
 - *length of event / sessions, number of papers, discussion groups, workshops*
 - *projected costs to participants (if any)*
- *Co-operation with other learned societies or interest groups*
- *Proposed use of sponsorship money, including projected costs where possible*

The contact details for proposals will be made available soon (through the BAAL mailing list). For any immediate enquiries, please contact Li Li (li.li@exeter.ac.uk).