

The 11th Chinese National Conference on Discourse Analysis was held in August, 2008

The 11th Chinese National Conference on Discourse Analysis was held in Xiamen University, Fujian Province between 18th and 22nd, August, 2008. The conference was organized by the China Association of Functional Linguistics (CAFL) and the China Association of English-Chinese Discourse Analysis (CAECDA), the chairs and active members of both associations being the same group of people who are essentially systemicists. The convener of the 11th Chinese National Conference on Discourse Analysis is Professor Yang Xinzhang, Dean of the College of Foreign Languages and Cultures, Xiamen University, who is also a vice-Chair of CAFL and a vice-Chair of CAECDA.

There were over 180 registered participants at this conference, the theme of which was “Discourse Analysis in the 21st Century”. And there were 160 people who presented their papers. Apart from participants from 75 institutions in different parts of mainland China, there were also people from the United States and Hong Kong. Professor M.A.K. Halliday was also present at the conference and he made a speech on developments of Systemic Functional Linguistics in relation to the Chinese context. During the conference, Professor Halliday’s new book “Complementarities in Language” (Beijing and Shanghai: The Commercial Press, 2008) was launched. Dr. Alex Fang of the Halliday Centre for Intelligent Applications of Language Studies at the City University of Hong Kong and Professor Qian Housheng, Director of the Shanghai Information Centre of the Commercial Press, were present and both made speeches at the book launch.

It has been decided that the 12th Chinese National Conference on Discourse Analysis be held in 2010 at China Ocean University in Qingdao, Shandong Province, and the convener is Professor Zhang Delu (<dlzhang@mail.ouc.edu.cn>), Dean of the School of Foreign Languages, China Ocean University, who is also a vice-Chair of CAFL and a vice-Chair of CAECDA.

(Huang Guowen)