

LANGUAGE AND ECOLOGY IN THE ANTHROPOCENE:

A SYMPOSIUM ON ECOLINGUISTICS

 February 5th & 6th, 2026

 Virtual



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Thank you also to the International Ecolinguistics Association and Bloomsbury Publishing. Please see the pre-order discount code for *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Ecolinguistics* on the final page of the program.

Thank you to Anne Druhl and Gorgas Library for providing the Camelia Room for the opening event.

And finally, thank you to the keynote speakers and presenters for participating in the Symposium. For many, their participation means early mornings or late nights. Much gratitude to you all for sharing your expertise.

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Symposium Overview

The Symposium on Ecolinguistics brings together leading international researchers engaged in explorations of the role of language in the life-sustaining interactions of humans, other species, and the more-than-human world. The event features keynote addresses from Professor Arran Stibbe (University of Gloucestershire, UK), Professor Sune Vork Steffensen (Southern Denmark University, Denmark), and Professor He Wei (Beijing Foreign Studies University, China) along with more than twenty international scholars applying approaches such as corpus-assisted discourse studies, ecostylistics, ecopoetics, positive discourse analysis, and critical multimodal discourse analysis as they explore discourses and texts that shape how humans perceive, understand, and engage with the physical world and its many inhabitants.

For the opening keynote from Professor Arran Stibbe, members of the UA community are invited to the Camelia Room in Gorgas Library at 12:00 pm for light refreshments before the talk commences at 12:30. All other talks will be hosted on Zoom Webinar, and all presenters, including the opening keynote, will join via Zoom. Some presenters have agreed to have their talks recorded and shared with the ecolinguistics community. These talks will be posted to Facebook group of the International Ecolinguistics Association in the days following the symposium.

Please note that presenters are dispersed widely around the world, and so scheduling sessions at a suitable time for all was a difficult endeavor. If you note some oddities in the organization of talks, these are likely attributable to scheduling challenges. Thank you to the presenters for their flexibility.

Audience members posting on social media about the event are

asked to use the hashtag #UA-Ecolinguistics.

Symposium Schedule

- Keynotes will be approximately 40 minutes followed by 20 minutes for Q&A. All other presentations are 20 minutes with 10 minutes for Q&A.
- Links to sessions to be sent to speakers and registered participants days prior to the event.

Day 1/Thursday, February 5

Time	Presenter	Title
8:45	Robert Poole, University of Alabama	Opening Remarks
9:00	Maria Bortoluzzi, University of Udine, Italy	Plant Representation in Discourse
9:30	Gavin Lamb, NNH Norwegian School of Economics	The Digital Anthropocene
10:00	Mel M. Engman, Queen's University Belfast Fionnghuala Nic Roibeaird, University of Liverpool Cristina Martínez López, Queen's University Belfast	Ecological Wellbeing and Human-Land Relations in Ireland
10:30	Daniela Francesca Viridis, University of Cagliari	Ecostylistics
11:00	Antonio Cuadrado-Fernandez, Anglia Ruskin University	Indigenous Poetry in the Anthropocene: Threading Paths of Emancipation
11:30-12:00	[Break]	
12:00-12:30	Reception in Camelia Room, Gorgas Library; Zoom Webinar space will open at 12:00 pm CST	

12:30-13:40	<p>Lauren Cardon, Chair of the Department of English at the University of Alabama</p> <p>Robert Poole, University of Alabama</p> <p>Keynote #1: Arran Stibbe, University of Gloucestershire</p>	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Ecopoetic Enchantment</p>
13:40-14:00	[Break]	
14:00	<p>Shannon Fitzsimmons-Doolan, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi</p> <p>Jennifer Beseres Pollack, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi</p>	Ecology and Environmental Science: A Promising Partnership
14:30	Carrie Packwood Freeman, Georgia State University	Inclusive & Respectful Terminology Promoting Kinship Among Fellow Animals -- Wild/Free-Living, Domesticated, and/or Human
15:00	<p>Tema Milstein, University of New South Wales</p> <p>John Carr, University of New South Wales</p>	Ecocultural Identity
15:30-16:00	Nataliia Goshylyk, UC Berkeley	Metaphors We Sustain By
16:00-16:10	[Break]	
16:10	Andrew Goatly, Lingnan University	Ecology and Literature
16:40	<p>Ming Liu, Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <p>Yi Xia, Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p>	Environmental Discourse Studies in China: A Critical Review

17:10	Nina Venkataraman, National University of Singapore	Discourses on Climate Refugees
17:40-17:45	Robert Poole, University of Alabama	Brief closing remarks on day 1

Day 2/Friday, February 6

Time	Presenter	Title
8:45	Zoom Webinar space will open at 8:45 am CST	
9:00-10:00	Keynote #2: He Wei, Beijing Foreign Studies University Introduction by Daniela Francesca Viridis, University of Cagliari	Ecolinguistics in China
	[Break]	
10:05	Douglas Mark Ponton, University of Catania Anna Raimo, University of Salerno	J.R.R. Tolkien and Positive Discourse Analysis
10:35	Mariana Rocca, University of Gloucestershire	The Impact of Ecolinguistics
11:05	Helina Hookoomsing, University of Gloucestershire	Language and Ecospirituality
11:35-11:45	[Break]	
11:45-12:45	Keynote #3: Sune Vork Steffensen, University of Southern Denmark	Language, Ecology, and the Corporeal In-Betweens

	Introduction by Jessica Hampton, University of Liverpool	
12:45-13:00	[Break]	
13:00	Jason Goulah, DePaul University	Ecolinguistics in Second and World Language Education: A Review at the Dawn of the Anthropocene
13:30	Jessica Hampton, University of Liverpool Denea Buckingham, Cultural Storytelling and Heritage Consultant	Redefining Language, Identity, and Heritage through an Ecolinguistics Lens
14:00	Lorena Borges, Universidade Federal de Alagoas	Global South Knowledges and Ecolinguistics
14:30	Bal Krishna Sharma, University of Idaho	The Semiotic Economy of Human–Elephant Engagements
15:00	Ruby Rong Wei, China University of Mining and Technology, Beijing	Systemic Functional Linguistics and Ecological Discourse Analysis
15:30	Cinzia Bevitori, University of Bologna	Discourse, Politics, and the Environment: An Ecolinguistic Perspective
16:00	Robert Poole, University of Alabama	Closing Remarks

Keynotes

[1]

Ecopoetic Enchantment



Arran Stibbe

University of Gloucestershire

[Thursday, February 5 12:00-2:00 PM CST]

This presentation explores how ecopoetry can evoke feelings of enchantment with the natural world, and how it connects these feelings with action to protect the ecosystems that life depends on. We start by describing the features of an enchanted experience such as a feeling of awe or wonder, a distorted sense of time and place, and a temporary suspension of rational thought. We then examine the specific linguistic and poetic techniques that poets use to convey those features, drawing from a collection of international ecopoetry. Finally, we contrast this imaginative mode with more disenchanting scientific perspectives that frame nature in terms of cycles, energy flows, species diversity, and resources. The conclusion argues that while both perspectives are valid and necessary, one of them is overwhelmingly privileged by contemporary society.

Arran Stibbe is a Professor of Narrative Ecology at the University of Gloucestershire. He has an academic background in both linguistics and human ecology and combines the two in his research and teaching. He is the founder of the International Ecolinguistics Association and is author of *Ecolinguistics: Language, Ecology and the Stories We Live By* (Routledge, 2015/2021) and *Econarrative: Ethics, Ecology and the Search for New Narratives to Live By* (Bloomsbury, 2024).

[2]

Ecolinguistics in China



HE Wei

Beijing Foreign Studies University

[Friday, February 6 9:00-10:00 AM CST]

Since the onset of the 21st century, ecolinguistics has exhibited trends of expanding its geographical scope, converging various theoretical paradigms, and diversifying research methodologies within the international academic community (He & Gao 2019). Meanwhile, ecolinguistic studies in China have progressively explored an innovative trajectory characterized by local features, grounded in the integration of advanced international theories. Domestic scholars have not only systematically reviewed the disciplinary development but also committed to integrating Western theories with China’s traditional ecological wisdom of “harmony between humans and nature” and contemporary ecological civilization construction strategies. They have proposed frameworks such as the “Harmonious Discourse Analysis” (Huang 2016, 2017), as well as “Ecological Discourse Analysis” models (He & Wei 2018; He 2021; He, Gao & Liu 2021; Zhang & He 2025; He, Zhang & Gao 2026), with research topics becoming increasingly diverse.

Although ecolinguistics has gained significant attention in domestic academia, few studies have systematically and objectively depicted the knowledge structure and developmental trajectory of this field using quantitative methods. Therefore, this presentation reports an article that uses bibliometric methods to visually analyze annual publication trends, journals, key research institutions, prolific authors, and keyword co-occurrence networks in China’s ecolinguistic field. Based on this analysis, it also prospects the future developmental directions of the discipline, aiming to provide an academic reference for the advancement and innovation of ecolinguistics

in China and to contribute Chinese perspectives to the global knowledge system of ecolinguistics.

HE Wei is Professor of linguistics at the National Research Centre for Foreign Language Education, Beijing Foreign Studies University. She is the author of nearly 200 publications as well as about 100 presentations. Dr. He has served in various editorial roles, such as editor, column editor, associate editor, and member of editorial advisory boards for over ten journals. Her areas of expertise encompass systemic functional linguistics, contrastive linguistics, ecolinguistics, discourse analysis, and translation studies. Dr. He is particularly interested in examining the interplay between semantics and syntax from a functional perspective. She is also deeply committed to advancing theoretical foundations and practical applications of ecological discourse analysis.

[3]

Language, Ecology, and the Corporeal In-Betweens



Sune Vork Steffensen

University of Southern Denmark

[Friday, February 6 11:30AM-12:30 PM CST]

Ecolinguistics has gained influence yet remains theoretically fragmented. While it has emphasised the importance of studying the relationship between language and ecology, it is still in the process of establishing a coherent theoretical framework for connecting the two.

In this lecture, I argue that contemporary ecolinguistics is undergoing a “corporeal turn” —a fundamental shift toward studying language as coordinative bodily activity within organism-environment relations (Steffensen & Cowley, 2021). On this view, ecolinguistics examines how textual and linguistic structures affect human behaviour in ways that have environmental consequences. This emerging ecological ontology treats language not as abstract symbolic structure but as an ecological phenomenon embedded in organism-environment relations (Steffensen, Döring, & Cowley, 2024). The lecture will discuss this turn by positioning ecolinguistics in a theoretical dialogue with Radical Embodied Cognitive Science and eco-Marxist philosophy (Steffensen, 2025).

The corporeal turn adds theoretical coherence to how ecolinguistics addresses urgent environmental challenges. As anthropogenic climate catastrophes intensify, understanding the role of language in coordinating collective action becomes critical. Ecolinguistics offers the theoretical scaffolding for transforming the linguistic practices that entrench environmental injustices haunting Planet Earth.

Steffensen, S. V. (2025). Cognitive Ecology: Towards an Integration of Radical Embodied Cognitive Science and Marxism (preprint). Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/g5uyq_v1

Steffensen, S. V., & Cowley, S. J. (2021). Thinking on behalf of the world: Radical embodied ecolinguistics. In X. Wen & J. R. Taylor (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Cognitive Linguistics* (pp. 723-736). London: Routledge.

Steffensen, S. V., Döring, M., & Cowley, S. J. (Eds.). (2024). *Language as an Ecological Phenomenon: Languaging and Bioecologies in Human-Environment Relationships*. London: Bloomsbury.

Dr. Sune Vork Steffensen (Ph.D. 2007, Aarhus University) is Professor of Language and Cognition at the University of Southern Denmark and serves as Chair of the Humanities at the Danish Institute for Advanced Study. As an internationally recognized leader in ecolinguistics, Sune Vork Steffensen has developed a transdisciplinary approach that integrates ecological linguistics, radical embodied cognitive science, and Marxist anthropology. He has edited six volumes and published over 80 articles and book chapters. He currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Language Sciences*.

Presentation Abstracts & Presenter Bios

1. Cinzia Bevitori, University of Bologna

Discourse, Politics, and the Environment: An Ecolinguistic Perspective

This talk explores the complex relationship between language, discourse, politics, and the environment, framed within the field of ecolinguistics. It examines how environmental issues are discussed in political genres, focusing on how language shapes and reflects political ideologies related to the environment. The presentation outlines key theoretical frameworks in ecolinguistics, highlighting the integration of political discourse analysis with ecological perspectives. A novel case study is introduced, analyzing high-level statements from the Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings. This provides an ideal setting to explore how environmental concerns are framed and communicated in global political arenas. Through ecolinguistic analysis, the talk demonstrates that language does not simply reflect but actively constructs political narratives, influencing policy and public perception on both regional and global scales.

Cinzia Bevitori is Associate Professor of English Language and Linguistics at the University of Bologna, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on English linguistics, analysis of political language, and corpus-assisted discourse studies (CADS). She is Vice-Director of *Dis-4Change: Studies on Climate Change and Environmental Discourse*. Recent co-authored work includes the chapter “‘Because Climate Change is the Crisis That Will Stay with Us’: Crisis, Polycrisis, Permacrisis in the EU Discursive Space” in *Critical Approaches to Polycrisis* (Palgrave, 2025) and “Risk and Resilience in a Changing Climate: A Diachronic Analysis in the Press Across the Globe” (*Text and Talk*, 2022).

2. Lorena Araújo de Oliveira Borges, Universidade Federal de Alagoas

Global South Knowledges and Ecolinguistics

Nature has, for many centuries, been imprisoned by the hegemonized knowledges produced within the scope of Westernized societies. Configured based on what Mignolo understands as the logic of coloniality/modernity, Nature is often assumed as a wild object, a possession or realm to be conquered, domesticated and shaped, completely stripped of the ability to produce meanings. This perception goes against that produced within Global South Knowledges, which assumes Nature as an agentic force, capable of promoting different meanings and shaping identities, an active participant, in a non-deterministic way, in the construction of the multiple sensibilities of the world that cohabits it. In dialogue with these conceptions, this talk proposes an integration between decolonial and countercolonial knowledges, especially the knowledges

produced in Latin America, and the discursive studies developed within ecolinguistics. This approximation provides an interpretative key that seeks to understand and contribute to the ongoing cultivation and valorization of cosmovisions that, for millennia, have existed in affectionate confluence with Nature and the beings that coexist within it.

Lorena Araújo de Oliveira Borges is an Associate Professor of Portuguese Language and Literature at the Universidade Federal de Alagoas (UFAL) and a permanent faculty member of the Graduate Program in Linguistics and Literature (PPGLL/UFAL), both from Brazil. She holds a Ph.D. and postdoctoral degree in Linguistics from the University of Brasília (UnB). Her research focuses on Critical Discourse Analysis, Decolonial Feminist Studies, Ecolinguistics, and Engaged Applied Linguistics, with publications in journals such as *Cadernos de Linguagem e Sociedade* (UnB), *Revista Leitura* (UFAL), and *Ecolinguística: Revista brasileira de ecologia e linguagem* (UnB). She is currently affiliated with the following research groups: the Discourse, Language Teaching, and Learning Research Group (GEDEALL/UFAL), the Language and Society Research Center (NELIS/UnB), and the Ecolinguistics and Imaginary Research Center (NELIM/UFAL). Since 2022, she has served as Vice-Director of UFAL's School of Letters and as a peer reviewer for national and international journals, in addition to evaluating academic conference submissions.

3. Maria Bortoluzzi, University of Udine

Plant Representation in Discourse

This talk focuses representation of plants in discourse, an area which has received limited attention in ecolinguistics so far, apart from for some exceptions (Poole, 2022; Poole and Micalay-Hurtado, 2022; Ponton, 2023; Bortoluzzi, 2024, 2025, forthcoming). The relevance of plants in ecosystems cannot be overstated, and yet they are often neglected in dominant discourses of industrial/ized societies. Respect towards all participants of the Earth ecosystems, including plants, is closely connected to ecojustice for all. Vice versa, exploitative and de-animating beliefs and their discursive construal in verbal and multimodal communication have a negative effect for all beings with cascading impacts on the web of life. The study draws on ecolinguistics and ecological discourse studies from an interdisciplinary perspective (Steffensen and Fill, 2014; Stibbe, 2021, 2024; Penz and Fill, 2022; Steffensen 2024a, 2024b, Poole, 2025). The main questions are: how do we communicate about plants in different cultural and interactional contexts? What do these practices and conventions reveal about the underlying values in specific context?

The presentation offers examples from two different case studies: news discourse, and texts by authors mediating indigenous knowledge for a wider audience. As could be expected, the findings reveal profoundly different worldviews on plants, but the analysis also highlights the

constraints posed by frameworks developed to investigate human groups and adapted for plant participants. The study advocates for a plant turn in ecolinguistics to reflect critically and positively on methodologies beyond anthropocentricity for reaching out to the photosynthesizing beings that interbreathe with us (Abram, Milstein, & Castro-Sotomayor, 2020).

Maria Bortoluzzi is Associate Professor of English Language in the Department of Languages, Literatures, Communication, Education and Social Studies, University of Udine (Italy). Her research interests include ecolinguistics, critical discourse studies, multimodal and multiliteracy awareness for language teacher education (English as a foreign/additional language). She co-edited with Elisabetta Zurru *Ecological Communication and Ecoliteracy* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2024). Among recent and forthcoming publications in ecolinguistics and ecoliteracy are: “Environmental Crisis and Pandemic Emergency: News Stories of Erasure and Awareness” (2022); “Identity Representation of Plants in Relation to Humans and the Lifescape” (2024); “Plant Representation in Social Media for Ecoliteracy” (forthcoming).

4. Antonio Cuadrado-Fernandez, Anglia Ruskin University

Indigenous Poetry in the Anthropocene: Threading Paths of Emancipation

Predatory and exploitative approaches to the environment at the heart of the Anthropocene have significantly increased since the rise of mercantile and industrial capitalism, having a disproportionate impact on Indigenous communities across the world. Even when their valuable ancestral knowledge and worldviews are currently under threat, their capacity to adapt and resist the consequences of anthropogenic environmental change offers pathways for environmental restoration and emancipation, as an alternative to the fragmenting and isolating impact of industrial modernity.

In this presentation, I aim to argue about the importance of Indigenous poetic perspectives (Mapuche and Palestinian in particular) and their potential liberatory role in the Anthropocene. Drawing inspiration from Enrique Dussel’s notion of material ethics, and Tim Ingold’s concept of threads, I will argue that the relevance of Indigenous poetry in the Anthropocene will depend on a more nuanced understanding of Indigenous modes of dwelling places understood as nodes of interlaced, threaded strands rather than as static networks of isolated connectors that characterize modern approaches to place. Likewise, engaging with the Indigenous text requires a “threading” process with the cognitive and bodily information emanating from the text, which determines the reader’s interaction with the writer’s Indigenous perspectives on dwelling. In this way, Indigenous poetry can be read as an emancipatory journey towards Dussel’s material ethics, that is, towards the biological, spiritual and cultural continuation of life on Earth.

Antonio Cuadrado-Fernandez is currently a Lecturer in Spanish at Anglia Ruskin University and Head of Spanish at Hill's Road Sixth Form College in Cambridge, UK. His research interests include Indigenous poetry and colonialism, mainly (but not only) in the Anglophone and Hispanophone worlds, cognitive poetics and linguistics, ecolinguistics, ecocriticism, cultural geography, neurophenomenology, and translation of prose and poetry and ecopoetry teaching. His work has been widely published in several international journal articles and book chapters.

5. Mel M. Engman, Queen's University Belfast
Fionnghuala Nic Roibeaird, University of Liverpool
Cristina Martínez López, Queen's University Belfast

Ecological Wellbeing and Human-land Relations in Ireland

Humans experience relationships with a wide variety of non-humans or more-than-humans (MTHs) such as animals, plants, and places. These relationships matter, particularly the relationships between humans and land, as a warming planet alters the ecosystems that we rely on for existence. Yet few language studies examine human-land relationships and the interactions that construct and maintain them when compared with work on human-human relationships. With this presentation we consider research that attends to the environment not only as a discursive space for human sense-making, but as a possible interlocutor in human-MTH interaction. We draw on previous studies and our current research to demonstrate how human-MTH relationships are real and dynamic, and that languaging is a fundamental part of them. We examine some key ethical and epistemological concerns embedded in research concerning human-land relations. In particular, we critique the nature-culture boundary and emphasise a need to incorporate reciprocity in human-land relations as an ethic toward ecological wellbeing; and we explore points of expansion within ecolinguistics when put in contact with Indigenous ontologies and epistemologies that insist on the more-than-human. We then draw on examples from a recent pilot study exploring the languaging of human-land relations in Ireland to highlight how a land-based paradigm can inform and transform ecolinguistics.

Mel M. Engman is a Senior Lecturer in Education and Applied Linguistics at Queen's University Belfast. A white settler and longtime language learner, Mel's research advocates for the maintenance and reclamation of Indigenous and minoritized languages and explores the role of language in human-land relations, bilingual family learning, and anti-colonial approaches to education. Her work can be found in the *Modern Language Journal*, *Linguistics and Education*, *Teanga*, and *Language, Culture and Society*.

Fionnghuala Nic Roibeaird is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Liverpool. Fionnghuala is a Gael involved in decolonial language reclamation in Ireland, focusing on the role of education, or Gaeloideachas, in language reclamation activism. Her work involves the use of decolonizing research methods to prioritize the narratives and needs of the colonized

in the face of colonial knowledge systems. Her work can be found in the *Journal of Language Identity and Education*.

Cristina Martínez-López is a PhD researcher in Education at Queen’s University Belfast. Originally from Spain, Cristina is a bilingual English language teacher and a migrant to Ireland whose work explores the construction and negotiation of linguistic identities in a pluricultural language learning setting while advocating for the hybrid and dynamic nature of teacher identity(ies). Her research interests focus on bi/multi/plurilingualism practices, language ideologies, and raciolinguistics.

6. Shannon Fitzsimmons-Doolan, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi Jennifer Beseres Pollack, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi

Ecolinguistics and Environmental Science: A Promising Partnership

Though interdisciplinary scholarship—bridging natural sciences, social science, and the humanities—is often called upon to address high-stakes international challenges such as climate change and its attendant crises (Poole 2022), attempts at such collaborations often fall short (Schipper et al. 2021). This presentation will focus on the promise of interdisciplinary partnerships between ecolinguists and environmental scientists to produce meaningful applied scholarship. It will highlight a study from one such partnership (Fitzsimmons-Doolan & Beseres Pollack, 2023), which explored if and how newspaper language on the topic of oyster reef restoration changed in relation to an environmental disaster. For this study, an applied linguist and marine ecologist collaborated to build and examine the 1.1 million-word Deepwater Horizon Oyster Restoration (DHORN) Corpus—a comprehensive body of newspaper articles about oyster restoration from 3 national and 18 gulf-state newspapers for the period April 2008-April 2014. The presentation will include findings from their study as well as an assessment of supportive aspects of their collaboration, contextualized in a description of the landscape of partnerships between ecolinguists and environmental scientists (Fitzsimmons-Doolan & Beseres Pollack, in press).

Shannon Fitzsimmons-Doolan, PhD, is a Professor of English (Applied Linguistics) and Harte Research Institute Fellow at Texas A&M—Corpus Christi. She is the current Applied Linguistics program coordinator. Her research specializations include applied corpus linguistics, language ideologies, language policy, and content-based instruction. She has published in journals such as *Corpora*, *Environmental Management*, *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, *Language Policy*, and *TESOL Quarterly*. She is the co-author of the Cambridge Element, *Lexical Multidimensional Analysis*, with Tony Berber Sardinha.

Jennifer Beseres Pollack, PhD, is the Larry D. McKinney Endowed Chair for Coastal Conservation and Restoration at the Harte Research Institute and a Professor of Marine Biology at Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi. She leads a research team focused on protecting and restoring coastal habitats like oyster reefs, tidal streams, and beaches. Her work supports healthy coastal ecosystems and communities through science, habitat restoration, and collaboration with local partners. She serves on state advisory committees and leads programs that provide science-based tools to support coastal conservation and sustainable marine resources.

7. Carrie Packwood Freeman, Georgia State University

Inclusive & Respectful Terminology Promoting Kinship Among Fellow Animals -- Wild/Free-Living, Domesticated, and/or Human.

I believe the root cause of humanity’s destructive and exploitative relationship with other living beings is our belief in human exceptionalism that purposely denies our status as animals and tends to justify a superiority complex over other animals and nature. So, we will discuss how common expressions and uses of the English language construct and maintain this false human/animal dualism. For example, the term “humans and animals” should be incorrect, and the term “animals” should typically need a clarifier that explains whether the speaker meant the category to include homo sapiens or not. In trying to create more respectful, accurate, and inclusive terminology for animals, social movements and conscientious media-makers are challenged to avoid confusion, unwieldy language, racial offense, and othering when using terms like “animals-other-than-humans,” “nonhuman animals,” “human animals,” “anymals,” “persons,” and “free-living/wild animals.” In this talk, I review some critical animal studies and environmental communication scholarship, including my own contributions, on this messy linguistic challenge of creating new, posthumanist norms in referencing all of us animals in various contexts. I examine many animal-inclusive terms for: all animals (including humans), animals besides humans, and humans only. I address the need to: rhetorically specify groups vs individuals, consider fellow animals as “persons” and members of a culture, and use personifying pronouns (e.g. they, she, he, who vs it). I end with a discussion of whether and how to refer to wild animals as “free-living,” and if “wild” is pejorative, necessary, and/or redeemable. In the Q&A you can tell me what you think.

Carrie P. Freeman, PhD, is a Professor of Communication at Georgia State University who researches environmental communication, critical animal and media studies, and strategic communication for activists. Her books include *The Human Animal Earthling Identity: Shared Values Unifying Human Rights, Animal Rights & Environmental Movements* (UGA, 2020), *Framing Farming: Communication Strategies for Animal Rights* (Brill, 2014), and a coedited anthology *Critical Animal & Media Studies* (Routledge, 2016). A grassroots activist since the

1990s, she co-authors the AnimalsandMedia.org style guidelines and has cohosted the “In Tune to Nature” radio show and podcast since 2010 on Radio Free Georgia.

8. Andrew Goatly, Lingnan University

Ecolinguistics and Literature

Mainstream media, as evidenced in both the BBC and environmentalist texts, shows a marked frequency of clauses that either marginalise nature, or treat it as affected by humans, or only worth notice when it negatively impacts human activities. But counter discourses, especially literary, can represent an alternative view of the natural world, and be a focus of positive discourse analysis, or ecostylistics. Firstly, intransitive material process clauses with natural elements as Actors can be detected as widespread in modern lyric poetry in English in a tradition going at least back to Wordsworth, and exemplified too in the poems of Edward Thomas, and William Golding's *The Inheritors*. Secondly nominalization can counter the thingification of the world, which challenges the typical material process clause dividing events into nouns and verbs as in the poem 'Birdsong for Two Voices' by Alice Oswald, and the novel *Pincher Martin* by William Golding. Thirdly, natural elements can be represented as powerful Actors by reworking Relational process clauses into Material ones, with Tokens promoted into Actors, also well illustrated by Wordsworth and Thomas. These second and third techniques are known as grammatical metaphor, and lexical metaphors, too, allow us to blur the distinction between humans and nature through personification and by poetry which represents nature as a Sayer, communicating with us to stress our interdependence. A further blurring technique is the co-ordination of human and non human in noun phrases. Analysis of Alice Oswald's 'Song of a Stone' and material from Richard Powers' *The Overstory* illustrate many varieties of metaphors and several of the above techniques and themes.

Andrew Goatly, semi-retired in Canterbury, UK, has had a wide-ranging academic career in Rwanda, Thailand, Singapore, and Hong Kong, where he remains an Adjunct Professor of Lingnan University. His books include *The Language of Metaphors* (Routledge, 2011), *Critical Reading and Writing* (Routledge, 2000/2016), *Washing the Brain* (Benjamins, 2007), *Explorations in Stylistics* (Equinox, 2008), *Meaning and Humour* (CUP, 2012), *Two Dimensions of Meaning* (Routledge, 2022), *Metaphor, Metonymy and Lexicogenesis* (Benjamins, 2024), and the open-source *Why We Can't Think Straight* (ALP, 2025). He is collaborating with UCL on an interactive, AI-informed *Thesaurus of English Metaphors*. His current interests are metaphor and ecostylistics.

9. Nataliia Goshylyk, UC Berkeley

Metaphors We Sustain By

The talk analyzes the conceptual metaphors in the discourse on sustainable development, presenting the underlying abstract and concrete notions as a coherent framework. Sustainable development discourse is viewed through a social constructivist lens as a socially produced and dynamic entity, shaped by context-sensitive language practices. The talk focuses on two main orientations within sustainability discourse: practitioner-driven discourse, which involves the concrete implementation of sustainability through corporate initiatives, policy measures, and grassroots actions, and meta-sustainability discourse, which critically examines how sustainability is framed, contested, and reinterpreted across academic, institutional, and public contexts. It distinguishes between metaphors *of* sustainability, which shape how sustainability itself is conceptually defined, and metaphors *for* sustainability, which are used rhetorically to promote specific behaviors, values, or institutional goals. Drawing on established approaches within ecolinguistics, the analysis shows how both conventional and novel metaphors contribute to public and institutional understandings of sustainability. The talk identifies a spectrum of metaphorical framings, including growth-oriented and reduction-focused models, as well as systemic, goal-driven, crisis-based, and cooperative conceptualizations. By critically assessing the implications of this spectrum, the talk provides a more nuanced understanding of how sustainability is communicated, conceptualized, and negotiated across diverse societal settings.

Nataliia Goshylyk, Ph.D., is currently a Lecturer at UC Berkeley, USA. In 2021, as an Associate Professor in the English Philology Department at Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University in Ukraine, she came to UC Berkeley to research ecological identity in social media for the Fulbright research project. Since the war began in 2022, she has been a relocated scholar residing in California. Her research interests include ecolinguistics, discourse analysis, intercultural communication, foreign language teaching methods, media literacy, and academic integrity.

10. Jason Goulah, DePaul University

Ecolinguistics in Second and World Language Education: A Review at the Dawn of the Anthropocene

This talk reviews the growing body of anglophone scholarship on ecolinguistic approaches in second and world language education. It begins by specifying the perspective on ecolinguistics that animates the review then characterizes the temporal and political context in which the chapter was written. The review centers on three areas: eco-discourses in curriculum and learning materials for English as a second/world language, eco-pedagogies in second and world language education, and teachers' views and teacher training. The presentation offers two

main conclusions. First, there is a growing body of anglophone scholarship from diverse cultural and geographic contexts on the intersections among second language and culture education, ecolinguistics, and biospheric ecologies, particularly relative to environmental sustainability and climate change. Future studies in this area are encouraged to employ diverse and underrepresented methods and theoretical frameworks. Second, not all scholarship in this area self-identifies as ecolinguistics, and not all ecolinguistics work on second language(s) engages with the growing corpus of related research in second language education. This means that both fields—and related others—must actively look beyond their disciplinary and terminological boundaries to broaden perspectives and develop a more robust and holistic approach to their shared effort.

Jason Goulah is Professor of Bilingual-Bicultural Education and Director of the Institute for Daisaku Ikeda Studies in Education at DePaul University, where he also directs degree programs in Bilingual-Bicultural Education, World Language Education, and Value-Creating Education for Global Citizenship. His award-winning scholarship in Ikeda/Soka studies, socio-ecological justice, and language, culture, and education has appeared in multiple volumes and scholarly journals. His six books include *Daisaku Ikeda, Language and Education*, which received the 2015 AESA Critics Choice Book Award; *Hope and Joy in Education: Engaging Daisaku Ikeda across Curriculum and Context*, which received the 2022 SPE Outstanding Book Award; and *TESOL and Sustainability: English Language Teaching in the Anthropocene Era*.

11. Jessica Hampton, University of Liverpool

Denéa Buckingham, Cultural Storytelling and Heritage Consultant

Redefining Language, Identity, and Heritage through an Ecolinguistics Lens

In this talk we build on recent developments in linguistics to scrutinize language as a bridge between heritage studies and linguistics. We start by mapping our understanding of language, identity, and heritage within the more-than-humanist framework and grounding the notions of language and identity as outcomes of the ecological context that we belong to. By exploring the reciprocal relationship between language and the more-than-human world, the talk establishes a novel position that recognizes language as an inherent part of our natural environment. Heritage is then reconceptualized as place-based, establishing a connection between language and heritage. Highlighting the ramifications of this conceptual shift, we emphasize the profound implications for both heritage studies and linguistics. The talk underscores the need to re-evaluate existing theories and methods in heritage studies, urging a departure from conventional perspectives. Moreover, we seek to outline how this redefined relationship between language and heritage sets the stage for a transformative future in ecolinguistics and

sociolinguistics which seeks to dismantle hierarchies of taxonomy in favor of an all-encompassing vision of language. Charting a course towards a future where language-as-heritage becomes a focal point for interdisciplinary exploration, this stance promises to reshape the landscapes of both heritage studies and linguistics, offering new avenues for research and paving the way for a more integrated understanding of the intricate connections between language, heritage, and the more-than-human world.

Jessica Hampton is Lecturer in English Language and Linguistics at the University of Liverpool. Her research explores minoritized groups and endangered languages at the intersection of place, identity, and belonging from an environmental perspective. She is working on a monograph, *Ecolinguistics and Endangered Languages: Emplacing Ecological Wisdom through Language Revitalisation*, as part of the Bloomsbury Advances in Ecolinguistics series. She is also co-leading the first-of-its-kind survey on the vitality of the languages of northern Italy and serves as the committee member responsible for the BA-funded project aimed at expanding a picture database called MULTIPIC.

Denéa S. Buckingham is a cultural-linguistic archaeologist whose work explores the relationship between language, heritage, and more-than-human kinship. Her postgraduate work at the University of Cambridge explores heritage values and the potential for both amplifying the Rights of Nature movement and strengthening UNESCO Natural Heritage protections through a cooperative more-than-human rights framework. Denéa currently works in Western Australia, Indonesia, and the Amazon as a Cultural Storytelling and Heritage Consultant specializing in collaborative methodologies for endangered language resilience, more-than-human heritage conservation, and cultural empowerment.

12. Helina Hookoomsing, University of Gloucestershire

Language and Ecospirituality

This presentation approaches ecospirituality as an interdisciplinary and relational framework through which ecological understanding, spiritual practice, and language converge. Grounded in ecolinguistics and ecological thought, and informed by indigenous and religious philosophies, it examines how ecospirituality challenges anthropocentric models of meaning-making by foregrounding relationality, sacredness, and interconnection among human and more-than-human worlds (Abram, 1996). Central to the presentation is the argument that language, understood not solely as verbal or symbolic exchange but as embodied and energetic practice, plays a critical role in shaping ecological consciousness and ethical orientation toward the Earth. The theoretical discussion is interwoven with personal narrative drawn from an in-depth interview with a folk herbalist and phytotherapist in Poland, whose lived experience provides an entry point into ecospirituality as an embodied way of life. Through conversational vignettes,

the presentation demonstrates how ritual, storytelling, and attentive engagement with plants constitute alternative modes of communication that move beyond conventional linguistic frameworks, in which plants are understood as teachers and communicative partners rather than passive resources (Kimmerer, 2013). These practices invite a rethinking of communication as participatory and reciprocal, situating humans within a wider web of animate relations rather than as detached observers of nature. The presentation suggests that ecospirituality enables a process of re-enchantment that fosters deeper reverence for the Earth while supporting personal and collective forms of healing; it frames ecospiritual practice as a transformative response to ecological crisis, one that reorients language, perception, and responsibility toward sustaining and protecting the living world.

Helina Hookoomsing is an eco poet, academic, and Reiki Master Teacher. She holds a PhD in Ecolinguistics and Holistic Education from the University of Surrey and is a Visiting Fellow with the University of Gloucestershire. She headed the Performing Arts Unit for the Mauritius Institute of Education, where she specialized in teacher training. Her research interests include ecolinguistics, ecospirituality, storytelling, meditation, holistic education, and creative expression. She is part of the Editorial Board for *Ecopoetikon* and her poem “Danbwa” features in the British Council funded project *Living-Language-Land*. She currently works for a private university in London, UK.

13. Gavin Lamb, NHH Norwegian School of Economics

The Digital Anthropocene

A growing infrastructure of digital conservation surveillance is transforming human-wildlife relationships in the ‘Digital Anthropocene’, an epoch characterized by the increasing mediation of interspecies encounters through digital surveillance technologies, the tracking affordances of social media platforms, and citizen science networks. This talk examines how digital surveillance technologies are generating magnetic landscapes where digital surveillance practices are ‘pulling’ humans and endangered marine wildlife into new relations of cohabitation, as well as unpredictable multispecies futures of care, commodification, and control. I explore how digital practices of wildlife surveillance and tracking are generating new forms of digitally-mediated human-wildlife intimacy. As this ‘digital intimacy’ increasingly shapes possibilities for human coexistence and co-adaptation with monk seals under climate change, I suggest how ecolinguistic research on semiotic landscapes might fruitfully contribute to these emerging lines of research on the multispecies entanglements that technologies of digital tracking and surveillance are generating in the Digital Anthropocene.

Gavin Lamb is an Associate Professor at NHH Norwegian School of Economics. His research draws on ethnography, ecolinguistics, discourse analysis, nexus analysis, and posthumanist methods to examine the sociolinguistics of intercultural and professional communication mediating human relationships with threatened wildlife and ecosystems. His recent book is *Multispecies Discourse Analysis: The Nexus of Discourse and Practice in Sea Turtle Tourism and Conservation* (2024).

14. Ming Liu, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Xia Yi, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Environmental Discourse Studies in China: A Critical Review

This presentation critically examines the body of environmental discourse research conducted by Chinese scholars. Its primary objective is to map the terrain of this field by identifying key researchers, their research aims, and the methodologies they employ. By providing a comprehensive overview of environmental discourse studies in China, the chapter seeks to shed light on the field's overall direction and offer valuable insights for the ongoing development of ecolinguistics in the country.

Four prominent approaches have been identified: communication studies, ecological discourse analysis, critical discourse analysis, and harmonious discourse analysis. The chapter also highlights the main challenges faced in this field. It is hoped that this work will contribute to a deeper understanding of environmental discourse studies in China and foster meaningful dialogue between environmental discourse research in the East and the West.

Ming LIU is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His research interests cover critical discourse analysis, corpus linguistics, pragmatics, systemic functional linguistics, and intercultural communication. His recent publications have appeared in international journals such as *Discourse & Society*, *Discourse & Communication*, *Language & Communication*, *Journal of Language and Politics*, *Text & Talk*, *Discourse, Context & Media*, *Lingua*, and *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*.

Xia YI is a PhD student in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Her research interests cover discourse analysis and Japanese linguistics.

15. Tema Milstein, University of New South Wales

John Carr, University of New South Wales

Ecocultural Identity

Ecocultural identity is a framework for understanding ways we all think, speak, act, and relate as having both cultural and ecological starting points and consequences. This conceptualization of identity emerges from attending to how language – as a social and environmental force – mediates sense-of-self, belonging, and relations-in-place, simultaneously shaping human perceptions of, orientations with, and actions toward each other and the more-than-human world. Using this lens, international scholars from ecolinguistics and across disciplines are bringing attention to ways ecocultural identities – ranging from anthropocentric to ecocentric – are discursively produced and performed. Further, scholars are exploring how these identities shape ecological and sociocultural outcomes – ranging from devastatingly to restoratively.

This presentation introduces how the ecocultural identity framework informs ecolinguistics. By introducing its rationale, premises, and an array of case studies, the chapter exhibits how researchers focus on material-symbolic discourse, ranging from language to cultural texts, to understand diverse situations and sites. The talk also previews emerging ecocultural identity research and exhibits the framework's wide applicability in not only research but also pedagogy and praxis. By resituating all humans within the ecological web of life, the ecocultural identity framework provides a fresh lens for ecolinguistics, environmental communication, and overlapping fields, and builds a necessary bridge between scholarship and public knowledge and praxis.

Tema Milstein is Professor of Environment & Society at University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow. She is an environmental communication scholar, known for cultural approaches to studying how communication shapes ecological understandings, identities, and actions. Her work tends to discourses that go unnoticed and their connections to wider dominant destructive practices or sustainable, just, and regenerative futures. Her co-edited books include the (now open access free to the public) *Routledge Handbook of Ecocultural Identity* (2020) and *Environmental Communication Pedagogy and Practice* (2017). She is co-lead of (Daily) Delight~Disrupt, a co-generated research-based project to ignite everyday ecocentrism around the world.

John Carr is an urban and legal geographer whose work focuses on the intersections of urban geography, law, planning, and human and non-human environments. His research interrogates the work required to reinforce the boundaries between the urban and the more-than-human and explores ways to break down those boundaries to make our built environments more

environmentally and socially restorative. He is a senior lecturer with the Environment and Society Group at UNSW. He is co-lead of *(Daily) Delight~Disrupt*, a co-generated global project to translate restorative change-focused research into igniting everyday ecocentrism.

16. Douglas Mark Ponton, University of Catania
Anna Raimo, University of Salerno

J.R.R. Tolkien and Positive Discourse Analysis

This paper applies Positive Discourse Analysis (PDA) within ecolinguistics to explore how *The Lord of the Rings* presents an alternative ecological imagination, foregrounding non-human agency, critiquing industrial modernity, and depicting more harmonious relations between humans and nature (Stibbe 2017b; Ponton 2022). Drawing on Martin's (1999, 2004) view of PDA as a reconstructive complement to Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), the paper examines how Tolkien's text offers "stories to live by" (Stibbe 2020). The study adopts an eco-translation approach (Cronin 2017) to assess how this ecological discourse is reframed in film adaptations. Using narrative analysis (Labov 1972) and pragmatic inference (Sperber & Wilson 1986), it traces shifts in meaning and emphasis introduced through adaptation. While Tolkien's prose constructs forests as sentient, morally aware entities (Goatly 2014), the films often reduce them to visual backdrops for action (Shippey 2007). This loss in translation reflects both the constraints of cinematic storytelling and a shift in ideological focus, as ecological meanings embedded in Tolkien's work are diluted by the demands of the action-adventure genre (Jones 2019). By documenting these shifts, we highlight PDA's potential to recover positive ecological discourses, demonstrating how genre-sensitive ecolinguistic analysis can reveal the environmental significance of stories across media. In this way, the paper situates PDA as a method for identifying constructive environmental narratives relevant to contemporary ecolinguistic research.

Douglas Mark Ponton is Associate Professor of English Language and Translation at the University of Catania, Department of Political and Social Sciences. His research focuses on discourse analysis with a particular interest in environmental narratives and public communication. He has published extensively in these fields, including the monographs *Understanding Political Persuasion: Linguistic and Rhetorical Analysis* (Vernon Press, 2020) and *Exploring Ecolinguistics: Ecological Principles and Narrative Practices* (Bloomsbury, 2024). He is Associate Editor of the *Russian Journal of Linguistics* and an active member of several international research networks in discourse studies and ecolinguistics.

Anna Raimo is a Research Fellow at the University of Salerno, where she works on ecolinguistics, L2 argumentation, and AI-based tools for environmental education. She holds a Ph.D. in “Culture Letterarie e Filologiche” from the University of Bologna. She previously worked on chatbots and language models for cultural heritage. Her research interests include ecolinguistics, political discourse, media studies, and the works of Dino Buzzati. She published a monograph titled *Lettere a un soldato. L’Italiano dei semicolti nella corrispondenza di Antonio Acquavivola* (Mephite, 2020) and several articles on semi-literate Italian and ecolinguistics.

17. Mariana Roccia, University of Gloucestershire

The Impact of Ecolinguistics

The potential of ecolinguistics in expanding the focus of applied linguistics to achieve real-world change has long been voiced (see Halliday 2001; Mühlhäusler 2019). However, a more granular analysis is needed to understand the ways that ecolinguistics can have practical benefits for the world, and how to measure these benefits. This presentation builds upon recent work on the topic of impact and ecolinguistics (Roccia 2021; Roccia and Iubini-Hampton 2021). It offers qualitative data that informs current advances in areas in which ecolinguistics has made a meaningful difference, such as work, skills, knowledge, attitude, and behavior (Roccia 2021; Stibbe 2021). Working with impact in mind from the onset is essential for fostering the role of ecolinguists as ethical leaders (Stibbe 2024), and for driving positive changes at personal and professional levels. Therefore, this presentation aims to describe the transformational impact of ecolinguistics. First, it discusses the concept of impact and its connection to ecolinguistics. Next, it introduces five possible pathways to ecolinguistic impact as evidenced in the data and relevant methods to capture these changes. Finally, the presentation draws on some practical considerations and key examples from a case study focusing on the free online course *The Stories We Live By* to inspire ecolinguists to reflect on the life-enhancing potential of their work and find possible avenues to develop and measure their impact.

Mariana Roccia is a Research Associate at the University of Gloucestershire. She is book series co-editor of Bloomsbury Advances in Ecolinguistics, and co-convenor of the International Ecolinguistics Association. Her research focuses on the impact of ecolinguistics, and the application of ecolinguistics to other disciplines, such as religious and literary studies, and the broader field of the environmental humanities. She is a member of the Chartered Institute of Linguists and the British Association for Applied Linguistics.

18. Bal Krishna Sharma, University of Idaho

The Semiotic Economy of Human–Elephant Engagements

This talk examines how wildlife tourism in Nepal’s Chitwan National Park materially and symbolically reproduces, and at times unsettles, the modernist division between nature and culture, and between human and nonhuman animals, by highlighting the ethical and political dimensions of the nonhuman’s role in contemporary aesthetic formations. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork, I trace how elephants are aesthetized, signified, and commodified through tourism infrastructures, from roadside sculptures and resort branding to staged events such as elephant polo and elephant beauty pageants. These curated encounters, driven by global conservation discourse and neoliberal market logics, transform elephants into charismatic spectacles for touristic consumption, which reinforces anthropocentric hierarchies under the guise of ethical care and anthropomorphic aesthetics. Yet, this commodified conservation obscures the labor of mahouts and the constrained agency of elephants themselves. At the same time, I argue that local cultural practices and relational modes of care embedded in mahout–elephant relations trouble this modernist divide. Ritual adornment, embodied labor, and spiritual associations with elephants reveal moments of interspecies intimacy and mutual dependence that resist capitalist abstraction. I demonstrate how multispecies interactions are mediated through haptic, spatial, and affective registers that challenge the logic of anthropocentric aesthetics. By placing Nepal’s elephant tourism within a broader framework of neoliberal conservation and transnational ecologies, this talk calls for a multispecies semiotics attentive to both symbolic regimes and the lived entanglements of human and nonhuman life. In doing so, it contributes to rethinking modernist aestheticization of nature within ecotourism spaces.

Bal Krishna Sharma is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics at the University of Idaho, USA. His research examines language use in the context of transnational mobility, with a particular emphasis on the social, cultural, and political dimensions of linguistic diversity in the contexts of work, education, and new media. His co-edited book with Shuang Gao *Language and Intercultural Communication in Tourism* was published by Routledge in 2022.

19. Nina Venkataraman, National University of Singapore

Discourses on Climate Refugees

This talk introduces the urgent and contested discourse of climate refugees, focusing on the structural and discursive challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDS). It outlines the absence of formal legal protections and the limitations of dominant media narratives. Through an ecolinguistic lens, it illustrates how voids, traces, and masks function as framing devices that obscure responsibility and constrain response. Rather than offering speculation, the chapter engages in a self-reflexive analysis of how absence shapes meaning and

marginalizes alternative realities. It closes with a call for ecolinguists to examine this domain more fully, building towards a framing more attuned to recognition, justice, and care.

Nina Venkataraman is a Lecturer at the Centre for English Language Communication at the National University of Singapore, Singapore. Her research lies at the intersection of language, media, and environmental discourse, with a particular focus on climate communication. She is especially interested in the role of absence, how what is left unsaid or unseen shapes public understanding and policy discourse. Both her doctoral work and subsequent research investigate how omissions structure meaning in environmental narratives. This sustained attention to what is obscured or overlooked informs her broader commitment to critical ecolinguistics and discourse analysis.

20. Daniela Francesca Viridis, University of Cagliari

Ecstylistics

This presentation provides a literature review of the work undertaken in the emerging research and teaching area of ecstylistics. It firstly delineates the area, with its two environmental and ecological lines of inquiry and its connections with the neighboring disciplines of ecocriticism and ecolinguistics. Secondly, the parameters adopted in this literature review for inclusion and exclusion of specific studies are delineated. The literature review proper constitutes the heart of the presentation and overviews: (a) two book-length studies, four edited volumes, and a special issue of a journal, and (b) several journal articles and book chapters. The latter studies are grouped and outlined in accordance with the literary or non-literary text type they analyze, that is, fictional prose, poetry, the Bible, news, non-fictional prose, the Internet, urban signage, and play. Reference is also made to the various stylistic methodologies and strategies applied in the studies. The closing section supplies concluding remarks and proposals for further advancement in the field.

Daniela Francesca Viridis is an Associate Professor of English Language and Translation at the University of Cagliari. She is the Chair of the Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA) for the years 2025-2027 and a member of the International Ecolinguistics Association (IEA) advisory group. She is the author of the book *Ecological Stylistics: Ecstylistic Approaches to Discourses of Nature, the Environment and Sustainability* (2022), the editor of *Ecstylistics: Texts, Methodologies and Approaches* (a special issue of the *Journal of World Languages*) (2022), and a co-editor of the books *Language in Place: Stylistic Perspectives on Landscape, Place and Environment* (2021) and *The Stylistics of Landscapes, the Landscapes of Stylistics* (2017).

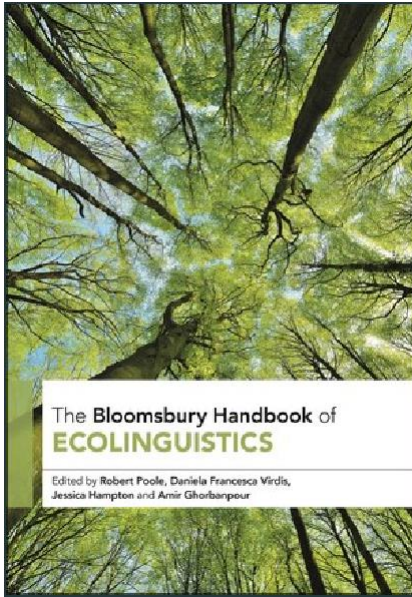
21. Ruby Rong Wei, China University of Mining & Technology, Beijing

Systemic Functional Linguistics and Ecological Discourse Analysis

This presentation proposes a synthesis of systemic functional linguistics (SFL) and ecolinguistics, aiming to present a comprehensive framework of ecological discourse analysis (EDA). The integration attempts to facilitate the dialogue between Western and Eastern academic endeavors to address the persistent ecological challenges affecting both nature and society. The development of the EDA framework is underpinned by a systemic review of the field's evolution, with a particular emphasis on EDA evolution into an independent discourse approach. This theoretical advancement necessitates the incorporation of linguistic techniques and ecosophical thinking in constructing an analytical architecture for ecosystem-oriented discourse studies. To this end, the research elaborates on a complicated conceptualization of ecosophy diversity and harmony, interaction and co-existence rooted in the multiple Chinese philosophical traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, and Mohism, subsequently introducing the robust theoretical underpinnings of SFL for EDA. The framework's analytical efficacy is demonstrated through case studies examining discourses of natural and social ecosystems, specifically exploring human-animal bonds and international relations. The framework of EDA is expected to enrich the ecolinguistic scholarship via its promotion of an ecosophy featured by culturalization, ecologicalization, socialization, and universalization, ultimately contributing to the maintenance of equilibrium across natural and social domains.

Ruby Rong WEI is an Associate Professor of linguistics at China University of Mining & Technology, Beijing. Her current research interests include ecolinguistics, systemic functional linguistics, corpus linguistics, discourse analysis and communication studies. She has authored the monograph *Systemic Functional Framework for International Ecological Discourse Analysis* (2022, Wuhan University Press) and published extensively in peer-reviewed journals such as *System, Text & Talk, Functions of Language, Discourse Studies, and Journal of World Languages*.

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With contributions from scholars of diverse disciplinary backgrounds across ecolinguistics, applied linguistics, environmental communication, and the environmental humanities, this handbook is an essential text for those exploring the role of language and the part it plays in the life-sustaining interactions of humans, other species, and the natural world.

Robert Poole is Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics and TESOL at the University of Alabama, USA.

Daniela Francesca Viridis is Associate Professor of English Language and Translation at the University of Cagliari, Italy.

Jessica Hampton is a postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Cambridge, UK.

Amir Ghorbanpour holds a PhD in linguistics from Tarbiat Modares University, Iran.

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