



AFMLTA News in Brief, April 2020

The AFMLTA provides vision, leadership, representation, advocacy, professional learning and support for quality teaching and learning of languages.

We recognise the challenges school communities are currently facing and congratulate schools, teachers and families for the ways in which they are continuing to provide quality language learning opportunities for students.

Supporting Language learning from home during COVID19

AFMLTA President-Elect Nathan Harvey and his Languages team at Willetton Senior High School in Perth have been preparing to move to delivering curriculum entirely online for Term 2. This has been a steep learning curve, not just supporting 300 staff, but also more than 2600 students and their families.

The Languages team have developed additional Connect Classroom modules which will provide quality teaching and learning resources in a streamlined manner to students and their parents. Online real time lessons will be conducted at least once per week using Webex. Students in Year 11 and 12 in particular will continue to receive intensive one-on-one sessions with language assistants, so that they can continue to develop their speaking skills.

Willetton SHS has also launched a new section of their website called COVID- 19 BULLETIN BOARD to inform and support the school community during the Corona Virus pandemic. The school will also be offering some online Professional Learning for teachers of Languages (see further details below).

Advocacy with AITSL

Last week members of the AFMLTA Executive met with the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), Mr Mark Grant. The focus was on expanding opportunities to work together to increase provision and participation in languages education in Australian schools. Further meetings are planned in coming months to continue to advocate for languages education and support languages teachers

AFMLTA Award Nominations: NOW OPEN!

All State and Territory Language Teachers' Associations are invited and encouraged to nominate members for one of the following awards:

- AFMLTA Inc. Medal awarded for Outstanding Service to Language Teaching. This award is specifically for exceptional and outstanding contribution and service nationally over an extended period.
- AFMLTA Inc. Certificate of Merit awarded for dedicated and effective contribution to the work of the AFMLTA Inc. or an MLTA/LTA over an extended period.

Further details, including award criteria and nominations are available from the AFMLTA website. Please send completed nominations to secretary@afmlta.asn.au by Sunday 10 May 2020.

AFMLTA Executive Positions: NOMINATIONS OPEN!

AFMLTA is calling for nominations to the roles of Babel Editor, Treasurer and Information Officer. Nominations from financial members of any MLTA/LTA affiliated with AFMLTA are welcome. Nomination forms and further details are [available on the AFMLTA website](#).

Please send completed nominations to secretary@afmlta.asn.au by Friday 5 June 2020.

BABEL

Volume 54 Issue 3 of Babel was mailed to all 2019 MLTA members at the beginning of 2020.

The final issue for 2019 included the following articles:

The Horwood Memorial Lecture from the 22nd AFMLTA International Languages Conference in Hobart in July 2019: presented by Professor Jane Simpson, Chair of Indigenous Linguistics and Deputy Director of the Australian Research Council from the Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language (CoEDL) at the Australian National University

An article on Distance Education for languages by Yvette Slaughter, Annemaree O'Brien, John Hajek and Wally Smith.

A report on the findings of the AFMLTA member survey undertaken in 2018.

A book review on Talking north: The journey of Australian's first Asian languages.

Proposals for articles to appear in future issues of Babel are invited. For information on Babel article requirements please visit [the Babel section of the AFMLTA website](#).

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The FREE online PL events below are being offered by the Languages Teacher Development School in Western Australia, Willetton Senior High School. Languages teachers from across Australia are welcome to participate.

Languages P-10 Assessing the WA Curriculum: Languages (WAC:L)

- This session will share strategies for effective assessment of the WAC:L. It will be appropriate for teachers of all languages P-10. Areas of focus will include Ways of Assessing and developing marking keys. Specific examples will be shared.
- Target audience: K-10, Primary and Secondary Teachers
- Date: Monday, 25 May 2020
- Time: 4.00pm - 5.30pm Western Standard Time (check local times)
- Location: Online event in Webex
- Last enrolment date: Thursday, 21 May 2020
- WA DoE teachers [click here to enrol](#)
- All other teachers [click here to enrol](#).
- Queries: nathan.harvey@education.wa.edu.au

Languages Year 11-12 Assessing WACE Languages

- This session will share strategies for effective assessment of the WACE Languages courses. It will be appropriate for teachers of all languages Years 10-12. Areas of focus will include assessment practices, designing assessments and maximising exam performance and preparation.
 - Target audience: Yr 11-12, Secondary Teachers, School Leaders
 - Date: Monday, 15 June 2020
 - Time: 4.00pm to 5.30pm Western Standard Time (check local times)
 - Location: Online event in Webex
 - Last enrolment date: Thursday, 11 June 2020
 - WA DoE teachers [click here to enrol](#)
 - All other teachers [click here to enrol](#)
 - Queries: nathan.harvey@education.wa.edu.au.
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Local and International Languages Conferences

4-6 July 2021: AFMLTA International Languages Conference, Adelaide

9-11 July 2021: NZALT Conference, Wellington

6-8 September 2021: FIPLV World Congress. Warsaw, Poland

AFMLTA: The National Voice for Teachers of Languages

The Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations (AFMLTA Inc.) is the national professional body representing teachers of all languages in Australia.

We provide vision, leadership, representation, advocacy, professional learning and support for quality teaching and learning of languages.
Ensure you are a member of the MLTA in your state or territory to enjoy the benefits of membership.



AFMLTA Membership

To enjoy the benefits of AFMLTA membership, join the MLTA in your state or territory.

AFMLTA Communication

Website: afmlta.asn.au

Twitter: @afmlta

Facebook: facebook.com/afmlta

Email: president@afmlta.asn.au

AFMLTA Executive 2019 – 2020

President: Amanda Pentti

President Elect: Nathan Harvey

Vice President: Sherryl Saunders

Secretary: Kylie Farmer

Treasurer: Veronique Canellas

Babel Editor: Andrew Scrimgeour

Promotions Officer: Anne-Marie Morgan

Information Officer: Kati Varela

Go to the [AFMLTA Website](http://afmlta.asn.au)