2021 NEWSLETTER

Association for Reading and Writing in Asia

NEWSLETTER ARWA 2021

The fifth annual conference of ARWA was held by Taiwan Normal University from March 5th to March 6th 2021. The two-day ARWA Annual Conference included 4 keynote speeches, 114 publishers, 62 oral presentations of papers, and 51 posters published on literacy research. The topics included cognitive and language development, digital reading, dyslexia, cross-cultural and multicultural issues, cognitive neuropsychology, etc. Over 150 scholars from 16 countries met online together and participated in this annual event. We thank Professor Li-Yu Hung and her team for organizing the conference during the COVID-19 period.
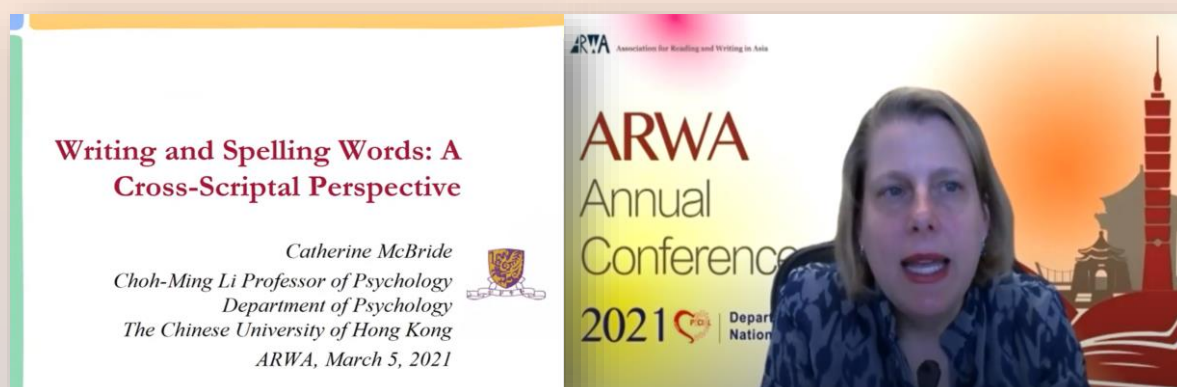

The current president of ARWA, Professor Catherine A. McBride, and the next president of ARWA, Professor Li-Yu Hung gave a virtual high five to each other through Zoom. The mission of promoting literacy and communication in Asia will be carried on.
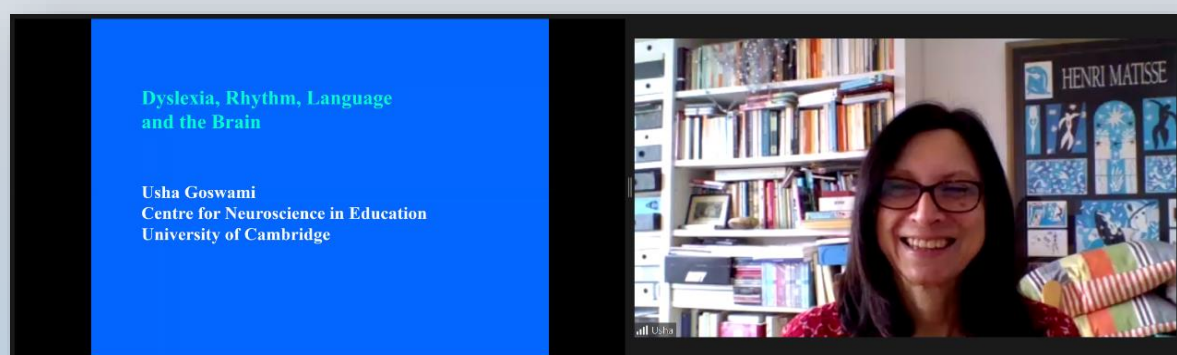
Highlights from ARWA 2021 Conference

There were four keynote speeches during the conference. The first keynote speech was given by Professor Catherine A. McBride from Hong Kong. Professor McBride shared her research of early spelling development across languages. She pointed out the universal component of writing and spelling and the importance of the scaffolding and instruction to children's spelling and writing development.

The second keynote speech was given by Professor Usha Goswami from UK. By describing a neural oscillatory "temporal sampling" framework for linking amplitude rise time discrimination to linguistic development by children, Professor Goswami showed that the sensitivity to the amplitude modulation (AM) structure of infant-directed and child-directed speech is key to individual differences in phonological development, and that this AM structure contains acoustic statistical cues to different phonological units.

Highlights from ARWA 2021 Conference

The third keynote speech was given by Professor Yuhtsuen Tzeng from Taiwan. Professor Tzeng's research focused on the relation between vocabulary, inference, and reading comprehension among fourth to sixth graders. The cross sectional and longitudinal data highlighted the importance of vocabulary depth according to its unique contribution to reading comprehension over and above vocabulary breadth and inference.

The last keynote speech was given by Professor Paavo H.T. Leppänen from Finland. He and his research team designed the instruction and assessment tools for teachers, and used eye-tracking system and neurocognitive measurement to examine the internet information seeking skills of 400 sixth graders including students with learning difficulties. The research pointed out that new reading skills and strategies are required for the contemporary readers.

Highlights from ARWA 2021 Conference

The conference maintained the tradition of a lunchtime workshop for young scholars. The workshop was hosted by Professor Chen-Yi Zhang from the USA. In the workshop, senior scholars were invited to share their experience in academic development and publication in literacy research and to encourage the young graduate students and scholars to persist in their academic journey.

The ARWA Student Awards

Puyan Zhang

The University of Hong Kong
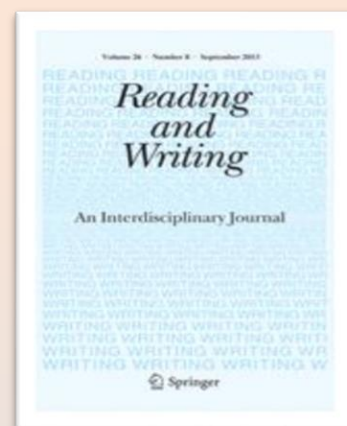
I-Ting Chiu

Taiwan Normal University

Yueming Xi

University of Toronto

Congratulations!

Conference Special Issue in Reading and Writing

We are accepting submissions to the ARWA 2021 special issue and the deadline for submission is **May 10, 2021**. The link to submit to the journal is https://www.editorialmanager.com/read/default.aspx where you will be requested to first enter your login details (or register an account if it is your first time submitting to the journal). To submit and ensure that the manuscript goes to the special issue, please select "SI: ARWA 2021" in the dropdown list for "Article Type" on the first page after you click "submit a new manuscript".

You can then proceed to submit the manuscript as per instructions provided in the submission site. You may also wish to refer to the link https://www.springer.com/journal/11145/submission-guidelines?IFA_ for the submission guidelines before submitting.

Junior and/or student researchers who are interested to gain experience and recognition in reviewing, please contact Dr. Poh Wee Koh at pohwee.koh@gmail.com, who will provide a short virtual workshop on Zoom about reviewing for Reading and Writing for those who might find it helpful. Please consider contributing to the journal as a reviewer.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and please do not hesitate to contact Poh Wee if you have any questions about submitting to the special issue.

The 6ᵗʰ Annual Conference (ARWA 2022)

As ARWA is shaping up the most exciting event there, we are pleased to announce that the 6th ARWA Conference will be held on 24-25 February 2022 at the 5 Star Pan Pacific Hotel in Hanoi, Vietnam! https://www.panpacific.com/en/hotels-and-resorts/pp-hanoi.html.

Since the inauguration in 2016, ARWA has been hosting yearly conferences at different regions for like-minded individuals to interact and synergize. ARWA Conference has grown to be a thriving hub for research and development in reading and writing, where expertise and innovation bloom. We hope that the pandemic will continue playing out and lockdowns will be eased soon. We will put together an exciting programme for the 2022 conference that involves many influential researchers and practitioners around the globe, and provides opportunities for academic discourse and professional collaboration.

Save the dates and stay tuned for details about the 2022 Hanoi conference and the hotel accommodate rates on the ARWA website! We look forward to seeing you in 2022! Thank you-cảm ơn.

ARWA Early Career Research & Mid-Career Award

The ARWA early career research award aims to recognize a talented early-career researcher who shows outstanding research potential in an area of reading and writing research that is related to Asia. The award winner will receive a 2000HKD (about 255USD) cash prize and a certificate.

The ARWA mid-career award aims at recognizing a researcher who is currently in the middle of his/her career (approximately associate professor level or equivalent) and who has a distinguished research record in the area of literacy acquisition that is related to Asia in particular or more generally to cross-linguistic / cross-scriptal literacy acquisition.

Please visit our web site for more details: https://www.arwasia.org/about-5.

Become a part of us now !

Fees of yearly membership:
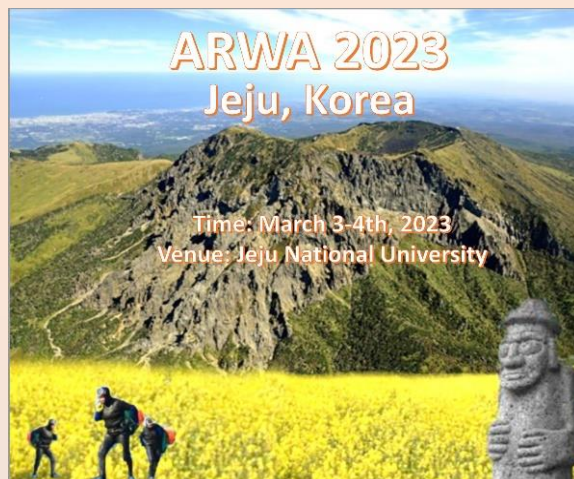US$ 100 Regular member
US$ 80 Student member

We are happy to announce that 50% off special pricing is available for lower-to-middle income economies, as defined by the World Bank.
Please register at our website: www.arwasia.org and help us spread the word to your colleagues!

ARWA to Stage 2023 Conference in Korea

We are happy to announce the ARWA 2023 conference to be held in Jeju island, Korea. The time will be March 3rd and 4th, 2023. The place will be Jeju National University. Local organizers are Prof. Jeung-Ryeul Cho at Kyungnam University, Prof. Sung Jun Joo at Busan National University, and Prof. Hongoak Yun at Jeju National University.

Jeju island is an hour's flight from Seoul. It is the best vacation area in Korea. As you can see in the picture, Jeju has the highest Mt. Halla in South Korea. It is a volcano, but it is not active now. There are three famous things in Jeju: wind, woman and stone. The bottom right is a stone statue made of volcano stones, and the left is female divers. The yellow canola flowers you can see in the picture bloom in early spring. We hope you all visit Jeju in ARWA 2023.

New website for ARWA : www.arwasia.org

In mid-October, 2020, we have migrated our website to a better platform and got our own domain name. In the past 4 years, The Chinese University of Hong Kong has kindly hosted our website with their server. The current website has served us all. However, we have learned that there is plenty of room for improvement, especially for our overall workflow, including streamlining of abstract submissions, registrations, and membership payments. Because ARWA keeps growing every year, our Board decided that this is a good time to revamp our website. We will slowly roll out new features and improvements to provide a better user experience to ARWA members.