

# 2024 NEWSLETTER



## Association for Reading and Writing in Asia

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# The general information about 2024 conference

We had a wonderful annual conference from Feb. 29, 2024 to Mar. 1, 2024 in Jeju, Korea. The conference was held on the campus of Jeju National University. Jeju Island is a volcanic island with well-preserved beautiful nature, which is recognized as a biosphere reserve and a World Natural Heritage site. Local organizers Sung Jun Joo, Hongoak Yun, Soon-Gil Park, and Jeung-Ryeul Cho successfully held the conference together. About 160 participants from more than 10 countries attended the conference, enthusiastically presenting the latest academic papers, exchanging ideas, and communicating with each other. We met not only at the conference hall but also at the conference dinner. We thank all the local organizers and the president of ARWA (Kevin Kien Hoa Chung) who organized the entire event!



## Acknowledgement Notes from the President

Professor Jeung-Ryeul Cho, a Board Member of ARWA, decided to step down from the Board in March 2024. On behalf of the Board, I want to express my profound appreciation to Professor Cho and Professor Hung Li-Yu, Former President (2021-2023), for their outstanding leadership and contributions to ARWA since 2016. Their commitment, dedication, and expertise have been pivotal in ARWA's success, and we are truly grateful for their support and involvement. Thank you very much for taking up different leadership roles in ARWA. You are always welcome to join ARWA activities and conferences.

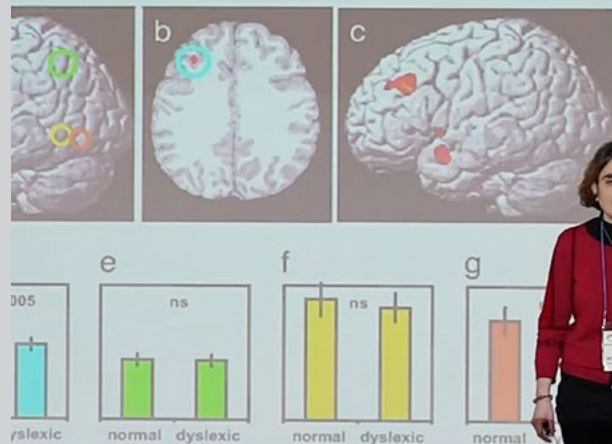
# ARWA 2024 conference Highlights

Dr. Young-Suk Grace Kim shared her theory and findings in a keynote speech titled “Simplicity and Complexity of Reading: Unraveling the Layers.”



The second keynote speech was presented by Dr. Ioulia Kovelman, who shared her long-standing brain science research under a fascinating title of “The Bilingual Brain: Understanding Child Literacy Though Bilingual & Cross-Linguistic Perspectives.”

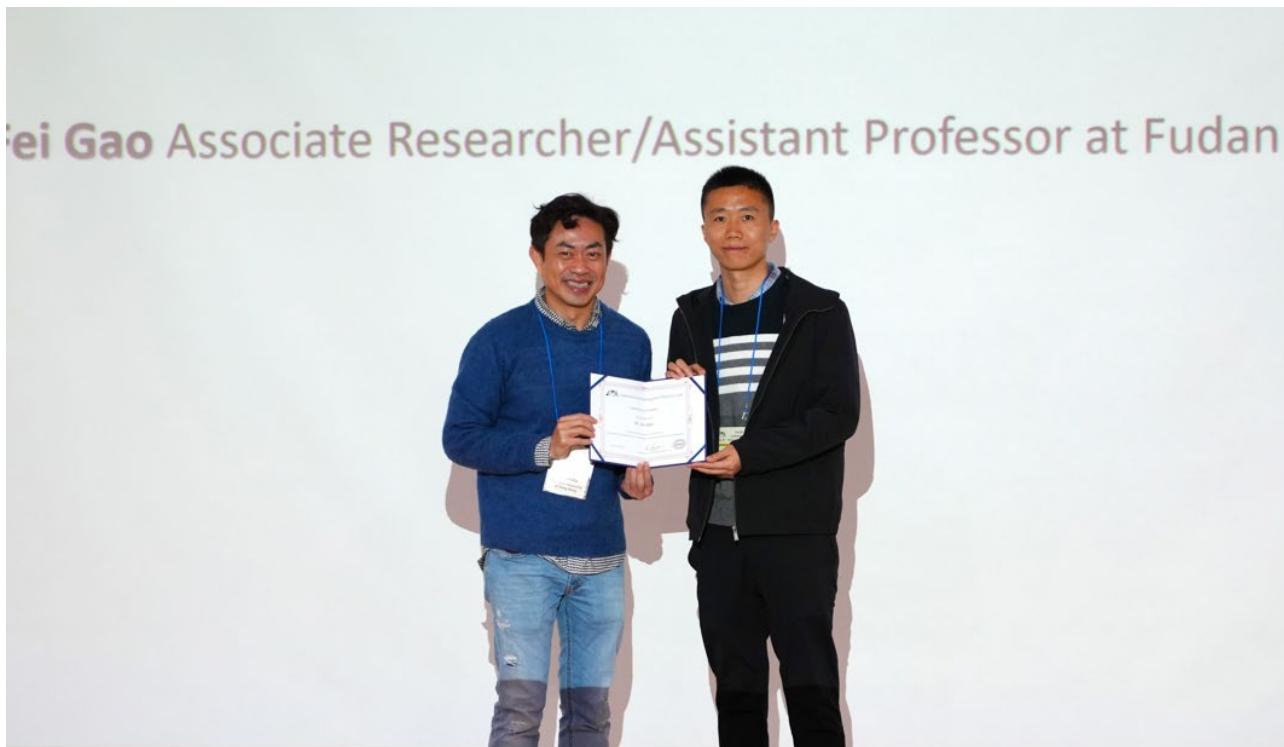
and anatomy differ in dyslexia in English and Chinese



The last keynote speaker was Dr. Portia P. Padilla, who gives a big introduction to the studies of Filipino literacy with the title of “Bilingual and Multilingual Reading: A Glimpse at Underrepresented Languages and Challenging Contexts.”

Results of local studies and high-stakes international assessments will be examined in the light of the following: 1) interactive framework of cross-language transfer in reading and 2) socio-cognitive interactive model of reading as a motivated meaning-construction process in the instructional context of the classroom. The challenges in and recommendations for implementing pedagogically sound policies that are meant to facilitate reading acquisition and development will also be explained vis-à-vis said findings, framework, and model.

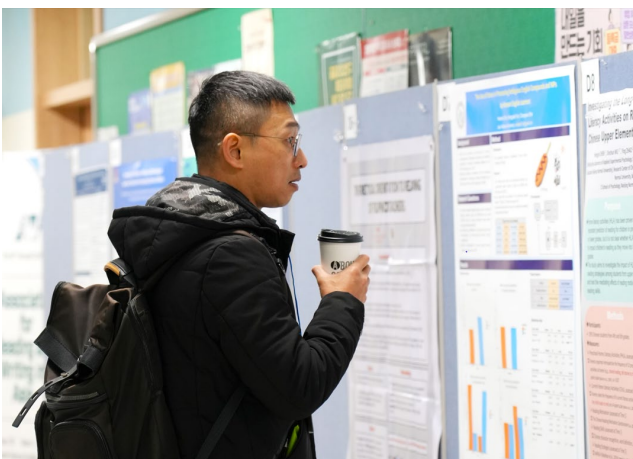




ARWA President, Prof. Kevin Kien Hoa Chung presented the Early-career Award to Dr. Fei Gao.



The Borad Member of ARWA



# ARWA 2024 Career Awards

Congratulations to the following two participants for winning the career awards for the ARWA 2024 conference!

## ARWA Early Career Award

### Fei Gao

Dr. Fei Gao is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Modern Languages and Linguistics in Fudan University. His research interests include Chinese lexical processing, second language acquisition and bilingual processing, drawing on behavioral and neuroimaging measures (EEG, fNIRS, and fMRI). His works have been published in multiple journals including *Cortex*, *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, and *npj Science of Learning*. Fei also serves as the editorial board member of *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*.



## ARWA Mid-Career Award

### Xiujie Yang

Dr. Xiujie Yang is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Psychology in the Beijing Normal University. Her research of interest is to understand the relationships of children's cognitive development, reading, and mathematics, how family environment and parenting affect young children's development, and how the brain plasticity supports children's cognitive development. Some research has yielded a series of publications on high profile journals, such as *Neuroimage*, *Journal of Educational Psychology*, *Child Development*, and *Learning and Instruction*. She also serves as the editorial board or reviewer for more than fifteen professional psychology/education journals.



The ARWA early career 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.

Nominations will be elected by the ARWA Awards Committee based on scientific merit. ARWA is committed to supporting and promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion. The award recipient must be approved by the ARWA Board members based upon recommendation of the Awards Committee. The decision of the Board is final.

Nominations should be sent to the ARWA secretary (Prof. LI Su, [lis@psych.ac.cn](mailto:lis@psych.ac.cn)) by Sep 1 each year.

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

# ARWA 2024 Student Awards

Congratulations to the following three participants for winning the student scholarships for the ARWA 2024 conference!

## **Two winners from the Chinese regions:**

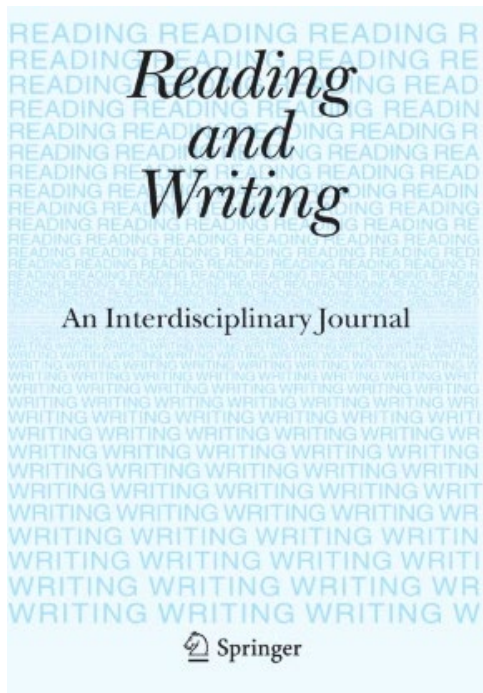
**Anna Yi Leung** (HK) PhD student at Munich Medical Research School, LudwigMaximilians-University of Munich, Germany

**Dongyang Yan** (Mainland) PhD student at the University of Hokkaido, Japan

## **One winner from the regions other than Chinese regions:**

**Marina Tsuji** (Japan) PhD student at the University of Hokkaido, Japan

# Conference Special Issue in Reading and Writing



 **Volume 35, Issue 4**  
April 2022  
Special Issue: ARWA 2020  
Issue Editor: Poh Wee Koh

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11 articles in this issue

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**Introduction to the 2020 special issue for the Association for Reading and Writing in Asia (ARWA)**

Poh Wee Koh

 **Volume 37, Issue 4**  
April 2024  
Special Issue: Selected Papers from the Association of Reading and Writing in Asia Conference 2021  
Issue Editor: Poh Wee Koh

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10 articles in this issue

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**Introduction to the 2021 special issue for the Association for Reading and Writing in Asia**

Poh Wee Koh

As for previous conferences, there will be an ARWA 2024 Special Issue in the journal “Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal”. The journal is accepting submissions to the ARWA 2024 special issue and the deadline for submission is now May 20, 2024.

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 2024” 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.

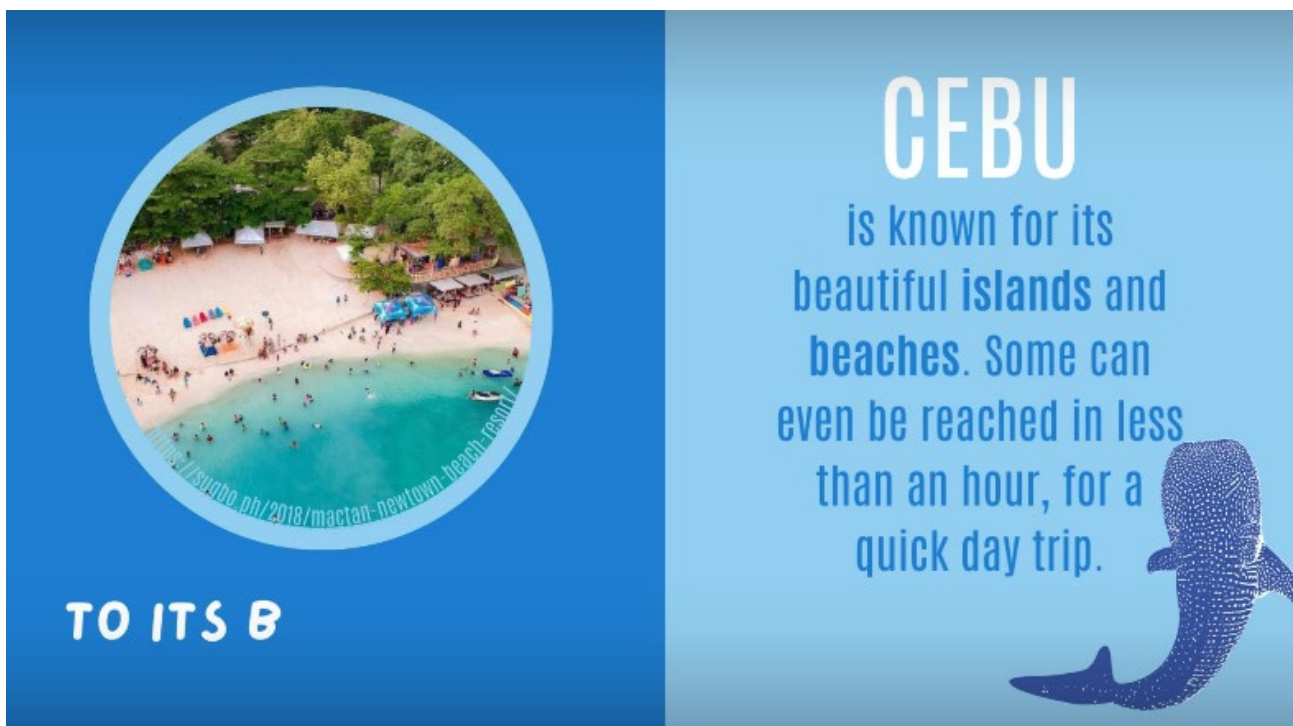
# The Nineth Annual Conference Announcement

The 9th Annual Conference for the Association for Reading and Writing in Asia (ARWA 2025) will be held in Cebu, Philippines.

Conference Coordinator: Portia Padilla

University of the Philippines Diliman

The Association for Reading and Writing in Asia (ARWA) 9th Annual Conference will take place on February 27 to 28, 2025, in the exquisite tropical island of Cebu in the heart of the Philippines. The Conference will provide an interactive platform for academics, researchers, and students to share their insights and experience on research related to reading and writing. Researchers will deliver presentations across the spectrum of literacy development, literacy impairment, and expert linguistic processing in Asia from related fields such as psychology, education, linguistics and neuroscience.



More information will come soon. We hope to see you in Cebu!

# The Tenth Annual Conference: Advance Notice

## ARWA to stage the 2026 conference in Taiwan

The synergy between ARWA and the Taiwan Academy for Learning Disabilities (TALD) is not merely a partnership but a convergence of visions that recognize the intricate relationship between learning disabilities and literacy development. TALD is comprised of a group of front-line practitioners and scholars who have long been dedicated to the practice and research of learning disabilities. Its mission is to promote the development of research, education, and welfare for learning disabilities. TALD aims to unify the ideas of scholars, physicians, and frontline clinical staff, working together to advance research, diagnosis, and education related to learning disabilities, and thereby advocate for the formulation of relevant policies.

Our conference will serve as a vibrant platform for researchers, practitioners, educators, and policymakers to share groundbreaking insights, cutting-edge research, and practical strategies that address the spectrum of reading and writing challenges encountered by students. This gathering is poised to foster a rich exchange of ideas, promote the dissemination of research findings, and encourage the development of practical applications that can make a significant impact on educational practices and policies across Asia.

Our collaboration represents a unique opportunity to bridge the gap between research and practice, facilitating a dialogue that is both regionally grounded and globally relevant. By bringing together the distinct strengths and focuses of TALD and ARWA, we aim to cultivate a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding learning disabilities and literacy, encouraging a holistic approach to intervention and support.

We warmly invite the ARWA community to join us in this exciting journey towards innovation and discovery. Whether you are a seasoned researcher, a dedicated educator, or an engaged stakeholder, your participation and contributions will be invaluable to the success of our conference. Together, we can forge new pathways for enhancing the educational experiences and outcomes of individuals with learning disabilities across Asia.

# Host an ARWA Annual Conference

Founded in 2016, ARWA exists to advance education by promoting the scientific study of reading and writing, as well as to understand related areas such as language and literacy.

A major way in which ARWA fulfils these objectives is by holding and/or organizing conferences. In particular, the Society sets great store by its annual conference. Since the first conference in 2017, attendance has grown and the influence of the Annual Conference is evident. ARWA now is seeking interested members to host the 11th (2027) and the 12th conference (2028). Your participation will greatly enhance the visibility of the Society and your research organizations!

For detailed information on how to host an Annual Conference, please contact [arwaenquiry@gmail.com](mailto:arwaenquiry@gmail.com).

*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](http://www.arwasia.org) and help us spread the word to your colleagues!