

2025 General Business Meeting Minutes [DRAFT]

Monday, March 24, 2025 | 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm MT
Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, CO
President Peter De Costa, Presiding | Secretary Agnes He, Parliamentarian

Call to order and Land Acknowledgement

The President called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm MT.

The President acknowledged the land where the 2025 AAAL conference took place. The acknowledgement reads:

AAAL acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of Hinonoeino (Arapaho), Tsitsista (Cheyenne), and Nunt'zi (Ute). We recognize the descendant communities of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana, the Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wyoming, the Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe of Colorado. We also acknowledge that over 40 different Indigenous nations continue to be in relation with the lands currently called Colorado. We further acknowledge the painful history of the Sand Creek Massacre and forced removal of Indigenous communities. Let us reflect upon the genocidal acts against Indigenous peoples and commit to dismantling ongoing colonial legacies and oppression. May this acknowledgement demonstrate a commitment to center our relations in research and build relational accountability to the Indigenous communities that call this place home.

Confirmation of Quorum and Review of Rules of Order

The Secretary confirmed quorum (120) and reviewed the following rules of order.

- The agenda sets the order of business for the meeting; the meeting will proceed according to the agenda.
- If anyone would like to discuss a new topic or consider a new proposal not on the agenda, they should (a) contact the Chair(s) of the relevant committee(s) or any member(s) of the EC, or (b) participate in the listening/discussion session with AAAL leaders immediately after the General Business meeting.

- It is important to follow parliamentary procedure to ensure the meeting runs smoothly and fairly.

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Andy Gao and seconded by Michał Paradowski that the meeting agenda be approved. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Approval of the March 2024 General Business Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Andy Gao and seconded by Lourdes Ortega that the March 2024 General Business Meeting Minutes be approved. All voted in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of the President – Peter De Costa

The President thanked the membership, the volunteer leaders, committees, and the business office.

The President announced that, for the 2025 AAAL conference, we have 1,791 conference registrations.

The President made a Courtesy Resolution Announcement: *That the American Association for Applied Linguistics at the opening of each annual conference make a land acknowledgment that recognizes the land in which the conference is being held as the traditional and ancestral territory of particular Indigenous Peoples.*

The President reported the work from two Task Forces:

- Conference Task Force: To explore the possibility of a virtual conference in addition to the in-person conference
- Membership Task Force: To (re)design the membership survey

The President shared the results of membership survey:

- 89 % likely to renew their membership
- 77.41% were moderately or very satisfied with their membership
- AAAL's areas of strength: providing outstanding conference content (94% of members would recommend the conference to a colleague), quality webinars and workshops, and important field-specific promotion and tenure guidelines

The President shared the recommendations from the Membership Task Force:

- Allocating resources to develop and implement a plan to increase the efficiency of outreach and communication with current and prospective AAAL members.
- Consider lowering membership and conference registration costs and make the conference more accessible.
- Continue promoting high-quality and impactful research while maintaining a commitment to JEDI issues.

The President reviewed the specific measures taken by EC in response to the above recommendations:

#1. Communicating with AAAL members

- Online Education & Research Committee
- AAAL Executive Committee Statement on the Executive Order Designating English as the Official Language of the United States (March 11, 2025)
- AAAL Executive Committee Statement on the U.S. Department of Education Workforce Reduction (March 18, 2025)
- Listening sessions at Denver 2025: (1) Open discussion forum on 3/23 (Applied Linguists and the Current U.S. Administration); (2) Public Affairs and Engagement Committee Open Meeting on 3/23; and (3) Listening session (immediately after this business meeting)

#2. Making the Conference More Accessible

- Conference Connections Committee
- Graduate Student Council
- Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee
- Virtual conference 2026

#3. Promoting High-Quality & Impactful Research

- Online Education & Research Committee
- Complimentary Access to Publications
 - *New Annual Review of Applied Linguistics (the official journal of AAAL)* contract with Cambridge University Press has been signed; \$10,000 invoice to AAAL will be waived
 - Multilingual Matters to provide watermarked pdfs of 20 selected book titles to be hosted on the members-only area of the AAAL website

The President invited the members to observe a moment of silence to honor of John Swales (1938-2025) and other colleagues who passed away in the past year.

Report of the Treasurer - Scott Jarvis

The Treasurer presented detailed balance sheets for assets, liabilities and equity, detailed conference statements, and income and expense statements over the last 4 years of his service as Treasurer. The Treasurer stated that overall AAAL is stable financially. Our investment strategies and budgeting practices have proven effective.

Report of the Secretary – Agnes He

The Secretary provided an update of the work related to AILA in the past year. She shared with the membership the August 2024 election results of the new AILA-Executive Board, acknowledged the presence of the newly elected AILA Vice President Markus Bieswanger, congratulated Kendall King on becoming a new AILA-EB Member-at-Large, and thanked Laura Gurzynski-Weiss for her service as AILA Secretary General. The Secretary shared with the membership information regarding future AILA Congresses: 2027 Congress will take place in Canada-Vancouver; 2030 Congress will take place in Australia-Perth. The Secretary emphasized the importance of maintaining and expanding collaborations with AILA and its other national affiliates, especially at a time of increasing uncertainties that may undermine the work of applied linguistics.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) – Elizabeth Miller & Ashley Moore

Ad Hoc Committee Chair Ashley Moore and AAAL Member-at-Large Liz Miller shared the history, mission, membership, actions and initiatives of the JEDI ad hoc committee. Specifically:

Current committee members:

- Usree Bhattacharya, University of Georgia (JEDI Officer on the Executive Committee, starting in March, 2025)
- Suresh Canagarajah, Pennsylvania State University
- Jennifer Phuong, Swarthmore College
- Elizabeth Miller, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Ashley Moore, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto

- Trish Morita-Mullaney, Purdue University

Developed Harassment Policy

- Approved by Executive Committee in June 2024
- <https://www.aaal.org/aaal-policy-on-harassment>

Standing Rule Changes

- Recommended changes to Standing Rule Travel Policy (#17, D.4.a) and Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations (#17, F):
 - Less legalese, more welcoming language to encourage requests for accommodations and underscore AAAL's commitment to doing whatever it can to make the conference accessible to all.
 - Removal of unnecessary requirements/restrictions.
- Approved by the Executive Committee in October 2024

JEDI-Related Data Analysis from 2024 Conference Survey

- Based on analysis, 21 recommendations to the EC included:
 - Striking a conference task force to explore radical rethinking
 - Ensuring more inclusive conference programs
 - Embedding Inclusive Presenter Guidelines & Anti-Harassment Policy
 - Maximizing accessible movement during the conference
 - More direct consultation with equity-deserving groups

Report of the Nominating Committee – Ryuko Kubota

The President-Elect introduced the current Nominating Committee members (chaired by Jamie Schissel)

Voting members

- Gail Prasad (York University)
 - Gail will serve an incoming NomCo Chair for 2026 elections
- James Coda (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- Prem Phyak (Teachers College, Columbia University)
- Kevin Wong (Pepperdine University)

Non-voting members

- Jamie Schissel (Univ. Of North Carolina at Greensboro) Chair

- Ryuko Kubota (University of British Columbia) Executive Committee representative

The President-Elect provided an overview of the committee's work

- 3 online meetings to determine list of candidates
- Rank voting of candidates to determine order to contact candidate
- Follow-up email discussions to increase the pool of candidates for 2nd VP position
- Collaborate with AAAL office to collect bio statements and pictures.

The President-Elected presented the list of final candidates for the 2025 election:

2nd Vice President:	Glenn Martinez
Secretary:	Virak Chan
Member-at-Large:	Doris Warriner
FFAL Trustee:	Scott Jarvis

Nominating Committee (vote 4):

Lawrence Zhang
Bedrettin Yazan
Tracy Quan
Nelson Flores
Kevin McManus
Miguel Pérez Milans
Dustin Crowther
Shaofeng Li

First Book/Book Award Committee (vote 2):

Hyun-Sook Kang
Peter Sayer
Jerry Won Lee
David Cassels Johnson

Dissertation Award Committee (vote 3):

Stephen May
Katie Bernstein

Maverick Zhang
Paul Meighan

Distinguished Public Service Award Committee (DPSA) (vote 2):
Christine Montecillo Leider
Pia Lane
Yilin Sun
Andrea Sterzuk

The President-Elected discussed some issues moving forward:

- JEDI statements are no longer part of required documents; instead, candidates are asked to explain how their profile addresses AAAL's mission.
- Additional appointment of veteran AAAL members

Report of the Graduate Student Council - John Wayne dela Cruz & Nasiba Norova

The Chair and Co-Chair of GSC reiterated GSC's mission and reported the activities and accomplishments by GSC's subcommittees, including engagement through social media, Newsletter, Planning, and Roundtable. They encouraged greater participation in GSC by the graduate student members of AAAL.

Report of the Committee for Online Education and Outreach – Steve Moody

Representing Committee Chair Katie Christoffer, the Vice Committee Chair showcased the many accomplishments of OEOC in the past year, including webinars, workshops, AAALetter, Oral History Project, and social media engagement. The Vice Committee Chair acknowledged the extraordinary efforts of the chairs of various subcommittees: Sarah Hercula, Marda Rose, James Mischler, Svetlana Koltovskaia, Katharine Burns. The Vice Committee Chair encouraged members to join OEOC.

Report of the Committee on Conference Connections - Irina Zaykovskaya

Committee members:

- In Ji Sera Chun (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa)
- Mari Haneda (Pennsylvania State University)
- Anna Mendoza (University of Illinois U-C)

- Irasema Mora Pablo (Universidad de Guanajuato)
- Ji-Young Shin (University of Toronto)
- Kevin W.H. Tai (Hong Kong University)
- John Wayne dela Cruz (McGill University)
- Irina Zaykovskaya (University of Minnesota) - chair

2025 Program Statistics

- 195 mentees
- 139 mentors
- 57 mentors meet two mentees or one mentee + group
- 38 small groups focused on general mentoring
- 102 individual meetings for advanced mentoring

Report of the 1st Vice President – Manka Varghese

The 1st VP thanked the conference organizing team and the Business Office for their contribution to the planning of the 2025 Conference and provided an overview of the conference:

- 1,745 conference registrations (as of 3/3/25)
- Number of sessions for 25 strands (as of 3/3/25):
- 5 plenaries; 7 invited colloquia
- 706 paper presentations
- 128 poster presentations
- 293 roundtable presentations
- 31 two-hour colloquia
- 17 one-hour colloquia

The 1st VP also highlighted new(er) features of the 2025 Conference:

- Plenary & invited colloquium connections
- Continued efforts to partner with Indigenous scholars, community members, and students
- Strengthening partnership with GSC
- JEDI
 - Funds that are not yearly JEDI expenses (criteria still being worked out)
 - Accommodation (zoom room, inclusive presenter guidelines)
 - Interfaith room; family area/space; lactation room; tranquility space

- Affinity group expansions
- Attempts with publishers/exhibits

Report of the 2nd Vice President – Mari Haneda

The 2nd VP gave a preview of the 2026 AAAL Conference.

Plenary speakers

- Sible Andringa, Amsterdam Center for Language and Communication, University of Amsterdam
Towards Equitable Open Access: Reimagining Publishing Practices for Applied Linguistics
- Jenny Davis, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Indigenous Language Futurism as both Methodology and Ethics in Applied Linguistics
- Becky Huang, Ohio State University
Language and Literacy Assessment for Young Multilingual Learners: Myths, Challenges, and Promises
- Scott Jarvis, Northern Arizona University
Applied Linguistics and the Law: Synergy in Research and Practice
- Kimberly Noels, University of Alberta
A Perspective on Language Learning from the Intersection of Psychology, Communication and Applied Linguistics
- Ruanni Tupas, Institute of Education, University College London
De-centering Language in Applied Linguistics

Invited Colloquia

- Open Scholarship in Applied Linguistics: Toward More Accessible, Transparent, and Responsible Research
Organized by Phil Hiver, Florida State University and Meng Liu, Beijing Foreign Studies University
- Disability Studies and the Deconstruction of Linguistic Normativity
Organized by Usree Bhattacharya, University of Georgia and Sara E.N. Kangas, Lehigh University
- Reimagining Disciplinary Writing: Leveraging Digital Multimodal Genres for Sharing Applied Linguistics Research with Broad Audiences
Organized by Matt Kessler, University of South Florida and Christine Tardy, University of Arizona
- Unbooking Applied Linguistics
Organized by Sinfree Makoni, Pennsylvania State University and Magdalena Madany-Saa, University of Oslo

- Critical PAR in Applied Linguistics and Language Education: Advancing Social Justice Through Decolonizing Research
Organized by Kongji Qin, New York University, Jamie Schissel, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- Artificial Intelligence in Applied Linguistics: Applications, Promises and Challenges
Organized by Andrea Révész and Shungo Suzuki
- Many Paths to Healthy and Vibrant Indigenous Languages, Speakers and Communities
Organized by Belinda Daniels, University of Victoria and Andrea Sterzuk, University of Regina
- Plurilingual Pedagogies for Linguistic Justice: Moving Beyond Traditional Bilingualism
Organized by Angelica Galante, McGill University and Pramod Sah, The Education University of Hong Kong

Pre-Conference Workshop Leaders: University of Illinois – Chicago

- Transforming Language Teacher Education Research/Practice Through Vygotskian Sociocultural Theory
Paula Golombek, University of Florida and Jacob Rieker, Pennsylvania State University
- Future-Proofing Your Findings Through Registration: An Open Research Workshop
Kara Morgan-Short, University of Illinois – Chicago and Bronson Hui, University of Maryland – College Park
- Research in Action: Conducting Useful Language Program Evaluations
Matt Coss, Michigan State University, Claudia Fernandez, University of Illinois – Chicago and Koenraad Van Gorp, Michigan State University

2026 Local Conference Chair

- Kara Morgan-Short, University of Illinois - Chicago

Virtual Conference Announcement – Ryuko Kubota, Peter De Costa & Stephanie Link

The Conference Task Force recommended AAAL offer one-day online conference in April 2026. The Task Force members are:

- Ryuko Kubota (Chair), University of British Columbia
- Irasema Mora-Pablo, Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico
- Masatoshi Sato, Universidad Andres Bello, Chile
- Melanie Wong, University of British Columbia, Canada

- Yanning (Anna) Dong, Tsinghua University, China
- Ali Fuad Selvi, University of Alabama, USA
- Kerry Pusey, University of Pennsylvania, USA, graduate student

Ryuko Kubota provided the context for developing virtual conferences. Stephanie Link explained the detailed plan for the virtual conference. A publicity video was shown.

The objectives are:

- **Accessibility:** Empowering more individuals to actively participate and engage in our AAAL community.
- **Global Networking:** Connecting global experts and peers across geographic boundaries.
- **Expanded Member Benefits:** Increasing the value of your AAAL membership with extended learning, exclusive content, and greater engagement.

Dates/Time

- April 24, 2026, one month after the 2026 conference in Chicago
- One-day conference, 9:00 am EDT to 7:00 pm EDT

Submission

- July 15, 2025
 - Same as in-person conference
 - Submit either for in-person or online, not both

Contents

- Live opening and closing sessions
- Live Plenary (by Shawn Loewen) to launch the conference
- Colloquia
- Paper presentations with live Q&A
- Posters sessions with asynchronous, text-based commenting.
- Networking sessions
- Live roundtables (3 papers, 10 minutes each, 30 minutes for Q&A)
- Graduate Student Forum

Recognition of the Outgoing Executive Committee Members – Peter De Costa

The President thanked the outgoing members of the EC:

- Lourdes Ortega, Immediate Past President
- Scott Jarvis, Treasurer
- Yasuko Kanno, Member-at-Large
- Katherine Christofferson, Chair of OEOC
- John Wayne dela Cruz, Chair of GSC

The President expressed thanks to the Association, the EC, the past Presidents, and the Business Office.

Transfer of Presidency – Peter De Costa & Ryuko Kubota

The outgoing President Peter De Costa passed the presidential gavel to the incoming President Ryuko Kubota in the transfer of presidency.

Recognition of the Incoming Executive Committee Members – Ryuko Kubota

The incoming President, Ryuko Kubota, thanked the outgoing President for his outstanding leadership. She then introduced the new members of the EC:

- 2nd Vice President Francis Hult
- Treasurer Paula Winke
- JEDI Officer Usree Bhattacharya
- Member-at-Large Yumi Matsumoto

Concluding Remarks from the New President – Ryuko Kubota

The new President expressed gratitude to Peter De Costa and all past presidents for their dedicated service to the Association. Acknowledging the challenges of the current sociopolitical climate, the new President emphasized the importance of supporting one another and reaffirmed that our work must continue. She reminded the membership of AAAL's mission, underscoring our steadfast commitment to upholding JEDI values, fostering solidarity, and advancing our shared goals. The new President also extended her appreciation to the Business Office and all committees for their hard work, highlighting the need for greater efficiency to help reduce our collective workload.

Adjournment – Ryuko Kubota

It was moved by Patsy Duff and seconded by Manka Varghese to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. MT

Respectfully submitted,
Agnes He, Secretary