

The Best Thesis Awards 2006

LSHK sets up the best thesis awards to acknowledge the advancement in linguistic knowledge made by young linguists. Young, not necessarily by age, but by the outstanding quality and freshness of their ideas and research shown in their dissertations. These linguists must have finished their studies and graduated in a university in Hong Kong within the 12 months preceding LSHK's call for nominations. So they are invariably young.

The tradition follows this practice:

The awards scheme is held annually. There are three categories of award: master of arts, master of philosophy and doctor of philosophy in linguistics or applied linguistics. In the case of only one nomination in any one category, this entry will be put to the following year and no award will be given out in that category in the year of entry.

LSHK exe com calls for nominations every summer. Nominations are made by supervisors. Upon receiving two hard copies of each of the entries, the exe com will invite academics from universities in Hong Kong to be reviewers of these theses. Each thesis is assessed by two reviewers. These reviewers are invited on the basis of expertise in the related areas and that they are not proposers of any nominations of the year. In the exceptional cases when no suitable reviewers are found, exe com members may be asked to review some theses.

Reviewers are anonymous to the proposers, i.e. the supervisors of the theses, the nominees and their counterparts, i.e. the other reviewer who is reading the same thesis.

When all the scoring sheets come back from the reviewers, the exe com meet to examine the scores and discuss them. Then they announce the results and give out the awards in ARF.

The Best Thesis Awardees of 2006 are:

MA

Mi Di (CUHK). *L2 acquisition of preposition stranding of pied-piping by Chinese learners of English*. (Supervisor: Gladys Tang)

M.Phil

Cheung Ki Shun Antonio (HKU). *Processing factors in language comprehension and production: the case of Cantonese dative constructions*. (Supervisor: Steven Matthews)

PhD

Au Yeung Wai Hoo Ben (HKUST) *An interface program for parameterization of classifiers in Chinese*. (Supervisor: Samuel Cheung)

Each awardee will receive an award certificate and a cash prize of HK\$500.

written by Colleen Wong, LSHK President (2006)