



1. Development of the Society

1.1. The new ExCom

A new Executive Committee (ExCom) was elected at the last AGM. The first ExCom meeting was subsequently held on December 8, 2007 at Hong Kong Baptist University. Its members are as follows: Sze-Wing TANG (President), Vicky MAN (Vice-President), Peppina LEE (Secretary), John WAKEFIELD (Treasurer), Peggy MOK (Communications Coordinator), Bit-chee KWOK (Newsletter Editor), Sam LEUNG and Virginia YIP (members-at-large).

1.2. Membership

We are delighted to welcome 46 new members (3 Life Members, 11 Regular Members, 7 Affiliated Members, and 25 Student Members) who joined the Society this year and very pleased to see the rapid growth of the Society's membership.

2. New Features

2.1. New domain server

Thanks to the contributions made by our Vice-President Vicky MAN and her helper Joyce LEUNG of HKBU, we have successfully applied for a new domain name server for our Society: www.lshk.org, to which everything on our website has been moved from the old CityU server. From now on, to access our website, we do not have to worry about memorizing a 'weird' URL. We hope that our website can become a reliable source to our members as well as to the international linguistics community for information exchange purposes.

2.2. Announcements of local activities

We have created a new page on our website announcing updated local linguistics activities. Please inform us of any workshops and conferences to be held in 2009 that may interest our members.

3. Activities

3.1. Workshops and study groups

3.1.1. *LSHK Workshop on Cantonese*

The 7th LSHK Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-7) was organized on March 29, 2008 at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. The theme was 'Cantonese Meets Theoretical Linguistics'. Paper presenters were Ben AU YEUNG, Andrew CHAU, Kwan-hin CHEUNG, Peppina LEE, Thomas LEE,

Haihua PAN, Sze-Wing TANG, John WAKEFIELD, Lian Hee WEE, Tak-sum WONG, and Carine YIU. The 7th WOC would not have been possible without the help of Carine YIU and the co-sponsorship of the Center of Chinese Linguistics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

3.1.2. *Study groups*

Two study groups on postverbal and interrogative particles in the Lianjiang Dialect were organized by the Society in November 2008 at City University of Hong Kong. The discussion was led by Huayong LIN from South China Normal University, to whom we are very grateful.

3.1.3. *LSHK Forum on Hong Kong Ciu4jyu5*

The LSHK Forum on Hong Kong *Ciu4jyu5* (「潮語」) was organized on November 22 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Seven speakers were invited: Ben AU YEUNG (CUHK), Chi-chiu CHAN (St. Paul's College), Lorelei LAW (TVB), Joyce NIP (HKBU), Chi-ming PAN (Subculture), Real-Real SO (designer of the *ciu4jyu5* picture cards), and Sze-Wing TANG (LSHK). The Forum provided a friendly atmosphere for the participants to discuss *ciu4jyu5* from different perspectives. Details of the Forum can be found on our website: www.lshk.org.

3.2. Cantonese romanization

3.2.1. *Jyutping Promotion Group*

We have formed a new promotion group to promote the use of the LSHK Cantonese Romanization Scheme or known as *Jyutping*. Members of this group include Kwan-hin CHEUNG, Uta LAM, Cedric LEE, Thomas LEE, Caesar LUN, Sze-Wing TANG, John WAKEFIELD, and Cathy WONG. I am the convener of the promotion group. Any members interested in joining the group should approach me for details.

3.3. Outstanding Thesis Award

I would like to congratulate the three winners of this year's award, Sherman LEE's PhD dissertation (CityU) on language choice and language shift among the Hakka-speaking population in Hong Kong, Kevin Ming Kei CHAN's MPhil thesis (HKU) on the perception and production of lexical stress by Cantonese speakers of English, and Feifei YU's MA thesis (PolyU) on the Chinese locative words with *shang*. On behalf of the ExCom I would like to express our appreciation to the 18 anonymous reviewers for their professional and fair judgments on the nominated theses and their time, and to Peppina LEE and Bit-chee KWOK for coordinating the job.

4. Publications

4.1. Selected Papers from LSHK-ARF 2006

Selected Papers from the 2006 Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong edited by Colleen WONG was published in Spring 2008. 12 refereed papers are included.

4.2. Two new books

I am happy to report that two new books published in 2007, namely *A Proficiency Course in Zhuang: Fieldwork Documentation and Revitalization of a Language and Culture of Southwestern China* by Adams BODOMO and Yanqin PAN and *Studies in Cantonese Linguistics 2* edited by Joanna SIO and Sze-Wing TANG had a good sale this year.

5. Sponsorship

5.1. The Society co-sponsored the following three conferences this year:

‘The 5th Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics’ (PRFL-5) organized by Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages, Chinese University of Hong Kong on March 15-16, 2008

‘Conference on Bilingual Acquisition in Early Childhood’ organized by the Childhood Bilingualism Research Centre, Chinese University of Hong Kong on December 11-12, 2008

‘The 13th International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects’ organized by Language Information Sciences Research Centre and Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics, City University of Hong Kong on December 18-20, 2008. We sponsor the ‘LSHK Outstanding Student Paper Award’, which aims to encourage postgraduate students to conduct research on Cantonese linguistics.

6. Financial Situation

6.1. This is a healthy year for the Society’s financial status.

7. Plans for 2009

7.1. The 6th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics

The Society has initiated and will organize the ‘6th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics’ (PRFL-6) to be held at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University on March 14-15, 2009, in conjunction with the ‘Second PolyU Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Research Symposium’. The theme of the PRFL-6 is ‘East Asian Languages: Theory and Application’. The submission deadline is December 15, 2008. For the details, please visit our website: www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/PRFL6. It is hoped that the PRFL will be organized by the Society in the future, becoming a trademark of the Society.

7.2. Workshops and study groups

We plan to organize more informal but professional small-scale workshops and study groups, for example, the 8th LSHK Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-8) (tentative theme on the syntax and semantics of *ciu4jyu5*) and a workshop on Cantonese romanization. New ideas and interesting topics are definitely welcome!

- 7.3. Book sale
We will explore the possibility to sell our LSHK publications on the internet, e.g. via Amazon.
- 7.4. E-newsletters
To facilitate effective academic discussions among our members over the internet, we plan to publish e-newsletters and post them on our website. Members are welcome to make comments and suggestions.
- 7.5. Looking ahead to 2009, do you have any expectations?

8. Acknowledgments

- 8.1. To the host of LSHK-ARF 2008
Many thanks go to the Department of Linguistics, the University of Hong Kong, i.e. the host and the co-sponsor of the ARF this year, and Adams BODOMO, Olivia LAM, and other helpers for their help and generous support.
- 8.2. To other ExCom members
It has been a great pleasure to be the President of the Society (again). I would like to thank the other committee members for their assistance. I am very happy to continue to work with them next year to achieve the general aims of the Society listed in the Constitution and to serve the linguistics community.
- 8.3. To all members
On behalf of the ExCom, I would like to express our thanks to all our members for their trust, support, and active participation in our activities. Needless to say, suggestions and criticisms are appreciated to help us do better in the future. Thank you!

Sze-Wing TANG
President, LSHK
December 6, 2008