



E-NEWSLETTER

電子通訊

The Linguistic Society of Hong Kong
香港語言學學會

Issue 2, October 2009

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First and foremost, I'd like to thank all LSHK members for supporting the Newsletter! Your contributions have certainly made the first issue very informative and successful in bridging members from across the globe.

This issue will begin with Call for Papers of conferences to be held in 2010. Before this year ends, make sure you also participate in the Workshop on Cantonese (WOC) on Nov 14 and the Annual Research Forum (ARF) on Dec 12 (<http://www.lshk.org/arf2009/>), where Prof. Chris Kennedy will present a keynote speech on syntax-semantics. The deadline for abstract submissions is the end of October. So, if you haven't yet submitted an abstract for WOC and ARF, take action now!!

The second part of this Newsletter presents a number of reports contributed by members who have participated in linguistics forums/conferences/workshops held this year.

In Summer 2009, Andy CHIN's research on indirect object markers in Chinese earned him the Young Scholar Award in the 17th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics! Congratulations to Andy!

Also, congratulations to members who have recently been granted the General Research Fund (GRF) by the Hong Kong Research Grant Council (RGC)! Their project abstracts are included in this Newsletter for your reading.

To keep the Newsletters running, your support is much needed! Please do keep me posted of any news that will interest the linguistic community. Of course, don't hesitate to send me your suggestions and comments on how to improve the Newsletters!

May you be blessed with great productivity and superb health in this new academic year!

Vicky MAN
Editor
October 2009
vickyman@hkbu.edu.hk

The Ninth Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-9)

Deadline for submissions: October 26, 2009
Workshop Date: November 14, 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
Workshop Website: <http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/tang/WOC.htm>

We are pleased to announce that the Ninth Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-9) organized by the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong will be held at the University of Hong Kong Science and Technology on November 14, 2009 (Saturday). The theme of this workshop is "**Representation and Standardization of Cantonese Sounds: Romanization and Standard Pronunciations**". Potential questions to be addressed are:

1. The descriptive approach which emphasizes linguistic facts is adopted by phoneticians and phonologists when studying sound systems of different languages. However, when it comes to the issues of which dictionaries, institutions, scholars or groups of speakers should be taken as the standard of Cantonese romanization and pronunciations, the prescriptive approach which calls for authorities then becomes the norm. Are the two approaches meant to be in conflict with each other when it comes to the question of standardization?
2. Language teachers and educators work on correct writing and pronunciation. From their perspective, how do they see the Cantonese Romanization *Jyut6ping3* and its applications?

Discussions are not restricted to the above two issues. Papers on the historical development, acquisition and other theoretical aspects of Cantonese sounds in relation to *Jyut6ping3* or standardization are also welcome.

Abstracts are invited for 20-minute talks with 10 minutes for discussion. Language used at the Workshop can be Cantonese, English or Mandarin. Abstracts may be written in Chinese or English and should be limited to one A4 page with the name(s) of author(s), affiliation and e-mail address(es). Abstracts in DOC format should be sent to: yyiu@ust.hk.

If you have further questions, please contact Carine Yiu at yyiu@ust.hk. For details and updated information, please visit: www.swtang.net.

The Second International Conference on Global Interoperability for Language Resources

Deadline for submissions: October 15, 2009
November 5/November 25, 2009
Conference Dates: January 18 ~ 20, 2010
Venue: City University of Hong Kong
Conference Website: <http://icgl.citl.cityu.edu.hk/>



The Second International Conference on Global Interoperability for Language Resources will bring together designers, developers, and users of language resources, tools, frameworks, and infrastructures from across the globe, in order to:

- Assess the state of the art in methods and schemes for resource representation, annotation, processing, interlinkage, and access;
- Consider the ways in which web technologies are and may be used to enable resource accessibility, interoperability and inter-linkage;
- Consider the requirements for (and obstacles to) full interoperability, especially with regard to multi-lingual and multi-modal data;
- Consider the requirements for achieving interoperability among multi-lingual resources of different types, including corpora, lexicons, knowledge bases, ontologies, etc., as

well as the systems and frameworks that enable their creation and exploitation;
-Work toward the definition of best practice guidelines and standards language resource representation, annotation, and use that will enable interoperability;
-Consider means to map or harmonize linguistic information in order to better enable cross-lingual studies;
-Provide direction for developers of resources for less widely used languages;
-Promote collaboration and cooperation among developers of language resources and tools across the globe;
-Consider ways to provide central or distributed access to language resources developed throughout the world.

This year's conference will include a special focus on the use of web-based technologies for interoperability and open access to language resources.

Submission deadline for long papers (8 pages): before midnight, 15 October 2009
Submission deadline for short papers (4 pages): before midnight, 5 November 2009
Submission deadline for commentaries (2 pages): before midnight, 25 November 2009

Contact Person: Alex Fang (acfang@cityu.edu.hk)

The Conference on Sign Linguistics and Deaf Education in Asia

Deadline for submissions: October 31, 2009
Conference Dates: January 28 ~ 30, 2010
Venue: The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Conference Website: <http://cslidea.no-ip.info>



Research in Sign Linguistics in the past several decades has enabled us to begin to unravel the properties of sign languages as natural languages, with all the complexity and expressive powers found in spoken languages. The 'Conference on Sign Linguistics, Deaf Education and Deaf Culture in Asia', held in the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2001 marked the beginning of an era of sign language research in Asia. Now, a decade later, it is time to take stock of the progress and the development of this field. Towards this end, the Conference on Sign Linguistics and Deaf Education in Asia aims at providing a forum for sign language researchers who work on Asian sign languages to share their research and to exchange information about the situation for sign linguistics and sign language research in their respective countries and regions. In addition, this conference aims at examining the development of models of deaf education in Asia that include sign language. Papers of the following areas related to Sign Linguistics and Deaf Education in the Asian context are welcome:

1. Asian sign language and linguistics:

Studies on the linguistics of individual Asian sign languages, for example:

- Syntax/semantics
- Phonology
- Acquisition
- Sociolinguistics
- Corpus linguistics
- Comparative studies on any linguistic structure in Asian sign languages or between Asian sign languages and those found in other parts of the world.
- Comparative studies on any linguistic structures between Asian sign languages and spoken languages.

2. Deaf Education in the Asian context:

- Sign bilingualism and sign bilingual acquisition
- The role of sign language in deaf education
- Literacy development of deaf children

- Language assessment (spoken/signed language) of deaf children
- Educational technology in deaf education
- Post-secondary education for the deaf

Paper presentations:

Each paper presentation will be 40 minutes in length (i.e. 30 minutes for presentation, followed by a 10-minute question/answer period)

Conference languages will be English and Hong Kong Sign Language. Interpretation between English and Hong Kong Sign Language will be provided. Presenters using other spoken or signed languages may bring their own interpreters with them.

Important deadlines:

Submission of abstracts: 31 October 2009

Notification of acceptance: mid-November 2009

Deadline for registration: 31 December 2009

Submission of presentation materials for interpreters: mid-January 2010

The 18th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-18)

The 22nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-22)

Deadline for submissions: December 31, 2009

Conference Dates: May 20 ~ 22, 2010

Venue: Harvard University

Conference Website: <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~iacl18/Site/index.html>



IACL-18 & NACCL-22 cordially invite abstracts, in all areas of Chinese linguistics and from any theoretical perspective, for presentation during the conference.

All those wishing to present a paper at the conference are required to submit abstracts for anonymous review by the deadline of Thursday, December 31, 2009. The abstracts can be written in either English or Chinese on any subject related to Chinese linguistics or the languages of China. Please indicate the precise linguistics sub-field in the form of a keyword on the upper corner of your abstract (e.g. phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, discourse/pragmatics, language acquisition, historical phonology, historical syntax, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics, syntax-semantic interface, etc.). The abstract should be single-spaced, no more than one A4 or letter-size page in length.

Each applicant may submit no more than one single-authored abstract in addition to one joint-authored abstract. Please send two copies as attachments by e-mail (one as a word document (.doc) with the author's name(s), academic affiliation and a contact e-mail address, and the other as an anonymous .pdf document without this information or any other kind of identification) to IACL18abstract@gmail.com, ensuring that you obtain confirmation of receipt from the Organizing Committee.

Young Scholar Awards

To promote, recognize and encourage young scholars, IACL is pleased to invite original papers in competition for (a) the IACL Young Scholar Award (YSA), (b) the Mantaro Hashimoto Award in historical phonology (MJH award), or (c) the Interdisciplinary Research Award (IRA). Finalists for these competitions will be awarded (partial) travel subsidies to attend IACL-18 & NACCL-22, and to present their papers during a special session of the Conference. The final winner will receive an official certificate of award. The YSA competition is open to those IACL members who are not over 35 years of age, or, if older, hold positions below a tenured associate professor (US / Chinese system) or its equivalent. For further information about these awards, visit IACL's web site <http://www.iacling.org/>.

To enter the competition, please submit (one copy of) a full anonymous paper (not to exceed 25 single-spaced pages) accompanied by an abstract and a separate cover



letter giving the paper's title, the author's name, age, academic rank, postal and e-mail addresses. Please submit your (a) full paper, (b) abstract, and (c) cover letter as email attachments to: IACL18abstract@gmail.com, ensuring that you obtain confirmation of receipt from the Organizing Committee. Please note that deadline for receipt of the full paper is December 15, 2009. Finalists will be notified around March 15, 2010.

IACL membership:

Presentation of papers is limited to those who are members of IACL when the conference begins. Membership fees are \$15.00 for students, \$30.00 for regular members, and \$300 for life members. Please visit IACL home page at <http://www.iacling.org/> to renew or apply for membership online, with option of payment by credit card.

Important Dates to note:

December 15, 2009:
Deadline for receipt of YSA, MJH, IRA papers

December 31, 2009:
Deadline for receipt of conference abstracts

第二届演化语言学研讨会

Deadline for submissions: January 31, 2010
Conference Dates: End of May, 2010 (to be confirmed)
Venue: 天津

第一届演化语言学研讨会已于 2009 年 3 月在广州成功召开, 根据会上的讨论意见, 第二届演化语言学研讨会由南开大学《南开语言学刊》、中国社会科学院《方言》、香港科技大学《中国语言学集刊》、上海高校比较语言学 e-研究院《东方语言学》主办, 天津市语言学会承办, 定于 2010 年 5 月底在天津举行。

语言演化是语言学研究的一个重要研究领域, 从演化的角度研究语言能够更好的发现语言发展的规律, 具有广阔的研究前景。

本次会议将邀请国内外著名语言学家以大会报告和主题报告的方式介绍语言演化领域的研究成果。本次会议将制作光盘版会议论文集, 收录与会的所有论文。

会议论文原则上不超过 A4 格式 6 页, 中英文稿件均可。

凡有意参加会议的学者, 请尽快填写回执并发送到 nankaievolution@126.com。我们将依据回执发出后续通知, 跟您进行及时、有效的联系。请大家相互转告, 将此通知转发给国内外的同行。

征稿范围

- 01 语音与音系演化表现及演化模式
- 02 语音演化的词汇及形态句法界面
- 03 汉语方言的演化
- 04 汉藏语系诸语言的演化
- 05 不同语言与方言的接触及演化
- 06 语言习得与语言演化
- 07 其他相关领域

重要日期

- (1) 2010 年 1 月 31 日: 稿件提交截止日期。
- (2) 2010 年 2 月: 开始陆续通知审稿结果并通知有关会议的具体情况。
- (3) 2010 年 5 月底 (具体时间待定): 会议召开



The 12th International Symposium on Chinese Languages & Linguistics

Deadline for submissions: December 15, 2009
Symposium Dates: June 19 ~ 21, 2010
Venue: Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan
Symposium Website: <http://www.ling.sinica.edu.tw/>

For now about two decades, the biennial International Symposium on Chinese Languages and Linguistics (IsCLL) has become a major academic event for the small but lively linguistic community of Taiwan. The upcoming twelfth symposium (IsCLL-12) scheduled for June 19-21, 2010 and jointly hosted by the Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica and the Linguistics Society of Taiwan will feature "**Complex Predicates**" as its theme.

Invited Speakers:

Susan Rothstein (Bar-Ilan University, Israel)
Chris Kennedy (University of Chicago, USA)
Hilda Koopman (University of California, Los Angeles, USA)
Stephen Matthews (The University of Hong Kong, HK)

Abstracts are invited for 30 minute talks (20 minute presentation + 10 minute question-and-answer period) on any aspect pertaining to theoretical and descriptive studies on the languages of China, with preference given to issues dealing with "complex predicates".

Contributors are limited to only one singly-authored and one jointly-authored abstract. Abstracts should be anonymous and about 2 to 3 pages of length, including references. A separate page should contain the following information: 1. paper title; 2. name(s) of author(s); 3. affiliation(s) of author(s); 4. e-mail address.

All files should be submitted in a pdf format. Non-standard fonts should be avoided wherever possible, and if necessary should be embedded in the pdf document. Abstracts are to be submitted via e-mail at **iscll@sinica.edu.tw** with the e-mail title: "name of the author: IsCLL-12". The deadline for abstract(s) submission is December 15, 2009. Authors will be notified of the results of their abstract review by March 15, 2010.

Further information

You can consult our web page (<http://www.ling.sinica.edu.tw/>), where further information on this conference, including a detailed program, accommodation information, and social events will be updated regularly. For anyone interested in receiving further information, please contact to **Grace Huang** at:

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The 7th International Conference on New Technologies in Teaching & Learning Chinese

Deadline for submissions: March 31, 2010
Conference Dates: July 19 ~ 22, 2010
Venue: 中国鲁东大学文学院
Conference Website: <http://www.amcle.org/>



前六届的中文电化教学国际研讨会分别在美国旧金山、中国广西师范大学、中国南京师范大学、中国北京语言大学、中国香港城市大学、韩国又松大学成功举办。经过严格的申办程序，中文教学现代化学会决定第七届中文电化教学国际研讨会将于2010年7月19日—22日（19日报到）在中国烟台的鲁东大学召开。

会议主题：

- 1、 中文教学现代化的理论探究；
- 2、 中文教学现代化的实践应用与反思；
- 3、 信息技术与汉语教学课程整合研究；
- 4、 数字化汉语教学的模式、方法、策略的应用与探索；
- 5、 汉语教学资源（包括平台、素材、课件、课程及工具）的建设；
- 6、 汉语教学课件（含光盘版和网络版）的开发、应用与测评；
- 7、 基于手机、PDA等移动设备的汉语学习新技术运用与新产品开发；
- 8、 数字化汉语教学的标准与规范研究；
- 9、 数字化汉语教师的培训与考评研究；
- 10、 汉语水平测试现代化研究；
- 11、 汉语教学知识库的理论与应用；
- 12、 中小学语文教学的数字化；
- 13、 其他中文教学现代化的相关研究与应用。

凡录用论文，拟在会议前夕由清华大学出版社正式出版发行论文集。会议期间还将召开中文教学现代化学会会员大会，该通知将另行发布。

会议工作语言：

中文或英文

提交论文的有关要求：

- 1、 欢迎围绕上述主题提交论文，字数一般不超过6000字。
- 2、 已经发表的论文请勿投稿。如因一稿多投带来任何问题，责任由投稿者自负。
- 3、 请先拟定论文题目，填写以下回执表，并于2009年12月31日之前，将回执表以电子邮件发给张杰老师 (Email: zhangjie@blcu.edu.cn，同时抄送 amcle@163.com)。
- 4、 论文全文提交截止时间为2010年3月31日。请将论文全文的电子稿（.doc文件）以电子邮件发给张杰老师（Email: zhangjie@blcu.edu.cn，同时抄送 amcle@163.com，以收到回复确认为准），电话/传真：010-82300365。

第十三届中国当代语言学国际研讨会

Deadline for submissions: February 28, 2010
Conference Dates: End of October, 2010
Venue: 中国华东师范大学
Conference Website: <http://www.icclc.org>



当代语言学国际研讨会
China's International Conference on Contemporary Linguistics

中国社会科学院语言研究所《当代语言学》编辑部与华东师范大学外国语学院、香港中文大学语言学与现代语言系、《外语教学理论与实践》编辑部拟于2010年10月下旬在华东师范大学召开第十三届中国当代语言学国际研讨会。

一、会议主题：

促进洋为中用、引进创新是历届会议的宗旨。本届会议欢迎当代语言学的各个分支领域的研究成果，包括句法学、音系学、语音学、语义学、语用学、认知语言学、语体学、历史语言学、话语分析、功能语言学、人类语言学、社会语言学、语言习得、外语教学理论研究等。为加强和推广音系学和手语语言学在我国的研究，本届大会突出两个主题：（1）音系学的理论研究及其应用；（2）手语语言学。

本届大会特邀主题演讲人有：

- 1、英国伦敦大学学院（UCL）副校长、语言学家 Moira Yip 教授：
(<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/moira/home.htm>)
- 2、英国兰卡斯特大学(Lancaster University) Mick Short 教授；
(另外两位未定)

本届会议跟历届一样，还肩负培养年轻的语言学爱好者、为他们提供交流机会的任务。为此，大会欢迎在校的硕士、博士研究生踊跃参加。会议注册费减半。

二、论文要求：

1. 语言：中文或英文
2. 提要长度：中文 800 字左右；英文 350 词左右。
3. 请注明论文题目、关键词 作者姓名、通讯地址、电子邮件、联系电话（务必）

三、论文提交

本届会议开始启用《当代语言学》国际会议网上会议投审系统，用户注册及提交论文请登录：<http://www.icclc.org>, 或 <http://www.icclc.org.cn>

论文提要将实行网上匿名审阅。

审阅结果也实行网上查询。

四、相关时间：

- 1、提交会议论文提要的最后截止时间：2010年2月28日。
- 2、论文审阅结果通告时间：2010年5月31日前。
- 3、提交会议论文全文的最后截止时间：2010年6月30日。
- 4、会议邀请信发出时间：2008年7月31日前。
- 5、会议注册时间：2010年10月21日。
- 6、会议时间：2010年10月22-24日。

本届大会主办方联系人：顾曰国；承办单位联系人：张吉生、邹为诚



Public Forum on the Medium Of Instruction Fine-Tuning Policy

Date: February 28, 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong Institute of Education



On Saturday, 28 February 2009, a half-day public forum on the proposed fine-tuning of the MOI (medium-of-instruction) policy was hosted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education. The forum was jointly organized by the Faculty of Languages (FLAN, HKIEd), the Research Center into Language Education and Acquisition in Multilingual Societies (RCLEAMS, HKIEd), and the Education Policy Forum (HKIEd). It was also co-organized by Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (LSHK), Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics (HAAL), and The Committee on Home-School Cooperation (CHSC). The public forum was conducted essentially in Cantonese. The main goal was to identify key issues/problems, stimulate discussion, air concerns, share opinions, and explore solutions through dialogue between members of different sectors and groups of stakeholders.

Eight guest speakers kindly agreed to address one core issue or major concern, accompanied by suggested coping strategies where appropriate:

- Associate Prof. Angel Lin (Department of English, CityU of HK)
- Associate Prof. Anita Poon (Department of Education, HKBU)
- Prof. Daniel So (Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, PolyU)
- Prof. TSE Shek Kam (Faculty of Education, HKU)
- Prof. P.C. Wong (Committee on Home-School Cooperation)
- Prof. Y.C. Cheng (Vice-President, Research, HKIEd)
- Prof. David C.S. Li (Department of English, HKIEd)
- Dr. Ronald Tang (Department of Education Policy and Administration, HKIEd)



Contributed by
David LI (HKIEd)

2009 Annual PolyU Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Research Symposium

Date: March 13, 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



On March 13th, 2009, some 45 postgraduate research students in the field of humanities across Hong Kong gathered at PolyU for the 2009 Annual PolyU Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Research Symposium. The symposium was organized by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, PolyU.



This one-day event started with an opening ceremony, in which Prof. Huang Chu-ren and Prof. Shi Dingxu of PolyU, gave welcoming speeches on behalf of the Faculty of Humanities and briefly introduced the history of the FH PR-symposium.

The symposium was constructed around 9 topical sessions for 32 presentations and a 45-minute joint session for 10 posters. Topics of presentations and posters ranged widely, related to syntax, semantics, pragmatics, phonology, discourse analysis, translation, language education, Chinese history, Chinese culture, so on so forth.

After each presentation, 10 minutes were allocated for discussion, with vigorous debate between participants and presenters. During the joint session for posters, some of the

poster writers exchanged their views with readers as well. The participants found the relevant discussion intriguing and fruitful.

By and large, this symposium was a gathering of peers. The participants took full advantage of this opportunity for exhilarating collegial exchange and knowledge-sharing in a relatively casual manner.

Pictures from FH PR-symposium 2009 can be viewed at:
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/PRFL6/> (and click 'Related Links')



The abstract booklet of the FH PR-symposium 2009 is available at:
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/PRFL6/programs.htm>

Contributed by
TAO Yuan (PolyU)

The 6th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics

Date: March 14~15, 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



The LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics is a conference organized by postgraduate students of linguistics and linguistics-related disciplines in Hong Kong. The purpose of this event is to provide a platform for research students to introduce their interests and on-going projects, and to exchange their understandings and innovative ideas about linguistic issues.

The 6th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics (PRFL-6) was held on March 14th and 15th, 2009. The event began with a keynote speech from Prof. Chu-Ren Huang titled "From Lexical Semantics to Knowledge Systems: How to Infer Cognitive Systems from Corpus Data." Prof. Huang is Chair Professor of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Dean of PolyU's Faculty of Humanities.



There were two days worth of parallel sessions. A total of 37 presentations were given by the presenters, who were from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Korea, and Thailand. The presentation topics included Semantics, Syntax, Phonology, Dialectology, L2 Acquisition, and Sociolinguistics.

Each presentation was 20 minutes with 10 minutes of Q & A, resulting in lots of lively, interesting discussion. This event was a great opportunity for research students to share their work and get constructive feedback from fellow students, as well as from the teaching staff from various Hong Kong universities that attended

Pictures from PRFL-6 can be viewed at
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/PRFL6/> (and click 'Related Links')



The abstract booklet is available at
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/PRFL6/programs.htm>



Contributed by
John WAKEFIELD (PolyU)

The 17th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-18) & Young Scholar Award (YSA)

Date: July 2~4, 2009

Venue: Centre de recherches linguistiques sur l'Asie Orientale

In addition to regular paper presentation, each year's IACL conference is highlighted by the **Young Scholar Award (YSA)** competition. The award was launched in 1994 with an aim to promote, recognize, and encourage scholarship by young scholars. The award has become a tradition of the IACL conference.

This year, 33 papers were submitted for the competition, among which 7 were shortlisted for final presentation. The YSA competition was held in a special session on the first day of the conference. Each finalist was given 20 minutes for presentation, followed by a 10-minute Q&A session.

The 7 papers covered a wide range of topics: typology, dialectology, semantics and syntax. Their titles are listed below (the abstracts of these papers can be found in the IACL newsletter, Vol. 17, issue number 2 at <http://www.iacling.org>):

1. Andy Chin (University of Washington / City University of Hong Kong): *Two Types of Indirect Object Markers in Chinese: Their Typological Significance and Development*
2. Jiang Nan (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences): 漢譯佛經“S, N 是”句非繫詞判斷句
3. Li Xuping (Mainz University): *Semantics of non-bare proper names in Chinese*
4. Lin Yian (University of Cambridge): *The Syntax-Discourse Interface of Nominal Phrases in Chinese: A Split-DP Account*
5. Xie Zhiguo (Cornell University): *Focus Intervention Effects: A Perspective from Mandarin and Tibetan*
6. Xuan Yue (Tsinghua University): 虛化結果補語是一種“完結短語”
7. Zhang Shengkai (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies): 平江方言的兩套第三人稱代詞

As usual, the winner of the YSA competition selected by the panel was honored on the conference banquet and presented with the award certificate.

Contributed by
Andy CHIN (CityU)

第四届国际形式语言学研讨会

Date: July 19~22, 2009

Venue: 北京外国语大学



第四届国际形式语言学研讨会于 2009 年 7 月 19 日至 22 日在北京外国语大学召开。本次研讨会由北京外国语大学中国外语教育研究中心（教育部人文社科重点研究基地）、天津师范大学外国语学院和北京航空航天大学外国语学院联合主办，外语教学与研究出版社协办。会议组委会主任由中国外语教育研究中心研究员戴曼纯教授担任，副主任分别由天津师范大学语言研究所所长宁春岩教授、天津师范大学外国语学院院长顾钢教授和北京航空航天大学外国语学院副院长朱乐齐教授担任。

本次研讨会是在大陆举办的最重要的形式语言学学术会议之一。北京外国语大学副校长金莉教授和中国外语教育研究中心主任文秋芳教授出席了开幕式，并分别致开幕词和欢迎词。会议的主题讲演嘉宾是美国马里兰大学教授 Howard Lasnik。其他特邀讲演嘉宾有美国哈佛大学教授黄正德、美国麻省理工学院教授 Kenneth Wexler、西班牙卡特兰高级研究院教授 Cedric Boeckx、日本京都大学教授 Fujita Koji、天津师范大学宁春岩教授。他们都是国际著名的学者，对形式语言学的发展做出了突出贡献。中国外语教育研究中心教授刘润清也应邀

做了大会发言。大会报告分别由石定栩（香港理工大学）、宁春岩、顾钢、戴曼纯、温宾利（广东外语外贸大学）、朱乐奇主持。



来自国内外的 100 多位学者和研究生参加了本次会议，并宣读了论文，从不同角度、用不同的语言事实诠释了人类语言的本质属性。本次会议还请 Lasnik 教授、Wexler 教授和 Boeckx 教授主持了三场专题讨论，探讨生物语言学、最简句法和语言习得等语言学前沿问题。会议决定，第五届国际形式语言学研讨会将于 2011 年在广东外语外贸大学举办。

Contributed by
GU Gang (Tianjin Normal University)

2009 全国语言学暑期高级讲习班 全国语言学青年博士生导师研修班

Date: July~August, 2009
Venue: 北京语言大学



2009 年 7 月至 8 月，“2009 全国语言学暑期高级讲习班（CLSI-2009）”和“全国语言学青年博士生导师研修班”分别在京成功举办。讲习班和研修班的课程受到了全国语言学专业学生和青年教师的热烈欢迎，取得了巨大的成功。课程结束后，主办方向学员颁布了结业证书和研修证书。

今年的“全国语言学暑期高级讲习班”列入了“教育部研究生教育创新计划”，面向全国（含港澳台）招收语言学专业青年教师和博士研究生，旨在为语言学青年教师和研究生提供前沿课程和学术交流平台。讲习班由北京大学、中国社会科学院语言研究所和北京语言大学联合主办，授课地点在北京语言大学，北京大学和商务印书馆为学员设立了奖学金。讲习班的报名人数超过 700 人，最终录取 250 人，举办规模和参与人数都创造了新的纪录。

本期讲习班的课程从 7 月 10 号到 8 月 10 号共分为三段（每十天为一段，每段两门课程）：第一段课程包括“汉语句法研究”（授课者：荷兰莱顿大学司马翎（Rint Sybesma）教授、北京大学沈阳教授）和“汉语形式语义研究”（授课者：香港城市大学潘海华教授、北京大学郭锐教授）。第二段课程包括“形式句法”（授课者：美国哈佛大学黄正德教授、中国社会科学院语言研究所胡建华研究员）和“认知—功能语法”（授课者：中国社会科学院语言研究所沈家煊研究员、张伯江研究员和方梅研究员）。第三段课程包括“历史语法与语义”（授课者：台湾中研院语言学研究所魏培泉研究员、北京大学蒋绍愚教授、中国社会科学院语言研究所曹广顺研究员）、“语音学与音系学”（授课者：香港科技大学朱晓农教授、南开大学李兵教授）和“心理语言学（汉语的儿童语言获得与语言学理论）”（授课者：香港中文大学李行德教授）。本次讲习班的内容涵盖了从句法到语义，从共时到历时，从形式到功能等多个方面。来自海内外的知名学者教授分别在课堂上介绍了自己最新的研究成果，他们不仅为学员带来了丰富的语言学前沿动态，还在轻松的课堂氛围中与学员进行了良好的互动。

本期讲习班除了每天六个课时的授课，还邀请崔希亮（北京语言大学教授）、冯胜利（美国哈佛大学教授）、黄居仁（台湾中研院语言学研究所研究院 / 香港理工大学教授）、刘丹青（中国社会科学院语言研究所研究员）、陆俭明（北京大学教授）、张洪明（美国威斯康辛—麦迪逊大学教授）、郑礼珊（荷兰莱顿大学教授）、郑张尚芳（中国社会科学院语言研究所研究员）等在内的学者作了“语言学前沿”的专题学术讲座，进一步打开了学员的学术视野。



由北京大学主办的“全国语言学青年博士生导师高级研修班”也于7月21日-30日在北京大学举办。此次研修班也属于“教育部研究生教育创新计划”，旨在为全国语言学博士研究生的培养工作提供交流的平台，这类研修班在全国属首次举办。研修班邀请了陆俭明（北京大学中文系教授，全国高等学校教学名师，全国优秀博士论文指导教师）；蒋绍愚（北京大学中文系和国学研究院教授，全国高等学校教学名师，全国优秀博士论文指导教师）；王宁（北京师范大学文学院教授）；黄正德（美国哈佛大学语言学系教授，北京语言大学“长江学者讲座教授”）；沈家煊（中国社会科学院学部委员，中国社会科学院语言研究所研究员）；戴庆厦（中央民族大学教授）、何莫邪（挪威奥斯陆大学教授，著名汉学家）等七位国内外知名学者授课，介绍了各自在培养博士研究生方面的做法和经验。

此次研修班除了特别授课者三个课时的授课外，在形式上也另有突破。每位授课者都在授课之后利用半天时间与所有学员进行座谈，内容涉及学术问题的探讨，博士培养的方法，自身工作的疑问等等各个方面。座谈会就像一个思想的大熔炉，从老一辈治学者身上，青年教师不仅学到了为学的方法，更感受到了他们为师的态度和为人的品格。研修班最后一天，国家学位办的李军副主任以及语言信息管理司司长李宇明和北京大学研究生院王仰麟副院长与研修班教师和学员进行了座谈。座谈会上学员们纷纷表示此次研修班令其受益良多，还对关于语言学学科建设的问题进行了深入的讨论，为语言学的学科发展提出了中肯的建议。

Contributed by
张慧、王梦纯

Upcoming Event...

The Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (ARF-LSHK)

Deadline for submissions: October 30, 2009
Forum Date: December 12, 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong Institute of Education
Forum Website: <http://www.lshk.org/arf2009/index.php>

LSHK members are cordially invited to attend and to present papers at the 2009 Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (LSHK-ARF 2009), which will be hosted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education, on December 12, 2009 (Saturday).

This year, we are honored that **Prof. Chris Kennedy**, Chair of Department of Linguistics at Chicago University, will give us a keynote speech.

As is customary ARF practice, there will be multiple parallel sessions and papers related to any areas of linguistics are strongly encouraged. Each paper will be allotted 20 minutes for oral presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations may also be considered and there may be poster sessions during the one-day ARF this year.

Each member is maximally entitled to one single-author presentation and one joint presentation. Each submission should be an abstract of no more than 400 words in English or 800 characters in Chinese.

ARF abstract submissions and registration will be done **online** at <http://lshk.org/arf2009/registration.php>. Email and/or paper abstract submissions will NOT be accepted.

For inquiries, please contact us by email at lshk.arf@gmail.com



Welcome to our New Members...

Our warmest welcome to the following new members (since February 2009)!

Life:	AHRENS Kathleen	Regular:	CHAN Shui Duen
	HUANG Chu-Ren		Yurie HARA
	LAW Wai On		KWOK Pang Fei

Membership Profile...

It's exciting to see how LSHK has grown in recent years, with members coming from not only Hong Kong, but also Australia, France, Japan, Korea, Macau, Mainland China, Singapore, Taiwan, and the USA.

Currently, there are:

45	Life members	20	Affiliate members
42	Regular members	97	Student members

News...

Prof. David C.S. Li joined the Department of English, Hong Kong Institute of Education on September 1, 2008. His contact details are as follows:

Department of English
Hong Kong Institute of Education
10 Lo Ping Road
Tai Po, N.T.
Telephone: (852) 2948 8602
Fax: (852) 2948 7270
Email: dcsli@ied.edu.hk

Members' Publications (2008-2009)...

Author:	CHEUNG, Lawrence Y.L.
Journal Title:	Dislocation focus construction in Chinese
Journal:	<i>Journal of East Asian Linguistics</i> 18(3): 197--232
Publication Year:	2009
Abstract:	The use of the Dislocation Focus Construction (DFC) (also known as "Right Dislocation") in colloquial Chinese (including Cantonese and Mandarin) gives rise to various non-canonical word orders. In DFCs, the sentence particle (SP) occurs in a sentence-medial position. The pre- and post-SP materials are demonstrated to be syntactically connected, based on four diagnostic tests, namely (i) the <i>zinghai</i> 'only' test, (ii) the <i>doudai</i> ("wh-the-hell") test, (iii) polarity item licensing, and (iv) Principle C violations. The findings offer new insights into the syntax of the Chinese left periphery and constraints on focus movement. First, the observations entail that Chinese CPs are head-initial, and an XP is obligatorily moved around the SP to a position higher than the CP. Second, the XP-raising in the DFC is argued to be driven by focus because of the focus interpretation induced. It is discovered that the focus movement is subject to the Spine Constraint, which turns out to be remarkably similar to the properties of the Nuclear Stress Rule (e.g., selection of focus set and metrical invisibility). It is argued that the DFC is the syntactic realization of the rule.

Author: **LI, David C.S.**
Journal Title: **Review of Kingsley Bolton's (2003), *Chinese Englishes. A Sociolinguistic Survey*.**
Journal: ***Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics* 11(1): 99-102**
Publication Year: 2008

Authors: **LI, David C.S. & COSTA Virginia**
Journal Title: **Punning in Hong Kong Chinese Media: Forms and Functions**
Journal: ***Journal of Chinese Linguistics* 37(1): 77-107**
Publication Year: 2009

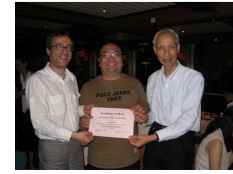
Author: **鄧思穎**
Journal Title: **粵語句末「住」和框式虛詞結構**
Journal: **《中國語文》第3期, 頁234-240**
Publication Year: 2009
Abstract: 本文主要研究香港粵語句末「住」的語法特點, 發現一些新的語料, 補充過去文獻的不足, 提出論據支持把「暫時.....住」分析為一個「框式結構」的觀點, 且討論「住」跟「暫時」和否定詞的關係, 研究所謂「多重虛詞」的問題。此外, 我們認為「住」應該歸屬跟時間相關的詞語類別, 而並非位於句子最高的位置。

Author: **鄧思穎**
Journal Title: **「他的老師當得好」及漢語方言的名物化**
Journal: **《語言科學》第3期, 頁239-247**
Publication Year: 2009
Abstract: 黃正德(2008)討論了「他的老師當得好」等「形義錯配句」的派生方式, 並且提出了動名詞的分析。沈家煊(2007)等提出了不同的看法, 認為「他的老師當得好」句式通過「類推糅合」的方法產生。文章通過漢語南北方言的比較, 首先指出派生說和糅合說的一些問題, 然後論證「形義錯配句」應該由動名詞名物化所產生的, 跟「類推糅合」沒有關係, 而漢語方言的差異由形成動名詞的移位參數所決定。

Author: **TANG, Sze-Wing**
Journal Title: **The Syntax of Two Approximatives in Cantonese: Discontinuous Constructions Formed with *Zai6***
Journal: ***Journal of Chinese Linguistics* 37(2), 227-256**
Publication Year: 2009
Abstract: This paper examines various grammatical properties of two postverbal approximative adverbs in Cantonese, viz *mat1zai6* and *gam3zai6*, and the discontinuous constructions they constitute. *Mat1zai6* is used to describe the frequency or degree denoted by the predicate in negative form while *gam3zai6* focuses on the process approaching the endpoint of the event. Both of them are heads projected above the predicate underlyingly and their occurrence in the sentence-final position is a result of movement of the entire predicate step by step on the surface. Postverbal and preverbal adverbs form discontinuous adverbial phrases in Cantonese, which can be stacked and should be in a strict hierarchical order in the clausal structure. The findings of this paper may shed light on the syntax of Cantonese postverbal adverbs and the theory of discontinuous constructions.

Honour & Award...

Congratulations to Andy CHIN, whose research on Cantonese grammar has won him the **Young Scholar Award** at the 17th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL)!



From CityU's Press Release:

<http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/puo/CityUMember/Story/Story.aspx?id=20090724160138>

Dr Andy Chin Chi-on, Assistant Scientific Officer at the Language Information Sciences Research Centre (LISRC) of City University of Hong Kong (CityU), won the Young Scholar Award at the 17th Annual Meeting of the [International Association of Chinese Linguistics](#) (IACL).

The award recognised Dr Chin's research on the development of Cantonese grammar involving the verb “畀” (*pei*, meaning to give or to allow, as well as an indirect object marker similar to the word 'to'). Among this year's finalists were entrants from the University of Cambridge, Tsinghua University, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Cornell University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and Mainz University in Germany.



Dr Andy Chin

IACL is a professional organisation devoted to the promotion of scientific research into Chinese languages and their dialects and is well respected in the field of Chinese linguistics. Each year, the IACL's Review Committee selects the best young scholar, aged 35 or below and whose current rank is below associate professor.

Dr Chin said he felt honoured to receive the award and he hoped that more young scholars would join the Chinese linguistics research team in the future. He thanked **Chair Professor Benjamin T'sou Ka-yin**, Director of LISRC, for his support and encouragement.

This research made use of a wide range of linguistic data: the oracle-bone inscriptions, the dialects of Wu, Min and Hakka, as well as more than 40 pre-modern Cantonese dialect materials published from 1828 to the 1970s. Dr. Chin also conducted field work in Conghua of Guangdong Province in order to work out the possible factors triggering the syntactic change.

The research showed that there are many factors contributing to linguistic change. “Language contact is one of these factors.” said Dr Chin. “This can be well exemplified by Hong Kong Cantonese, which has been receiving influence from English and Putonghua”.

Dr Chin received his Bachelor's degree and Master of Philosophy from the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics of CityU. He was then awarded a Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Overseas Studies to pursue his Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Washington. Lastly, Dr Chin expressed thanks to **Professor Anne Yue**, his dissertation advisor, for her inspiration and advice.

Two Types of Indirect Object Markers in Chinese: Their Typological Significance and Development

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Abstract

By examining the double-object constructions in the oracle bone inscriptions, pre-modern and modern Chinese dialects, this paper argues that two types of indirect object markers can be identified in the Chinese language: The **go-type** and the **give-type**. The *go*-type is mainly performed by directional verbs such as 于 in the oracle bone inscriptions, 去 in the Min dialect of Wenchang, 拉/辣/勒 in the Wu dialect of Shanghai/Suzhou and 過 in the Yue dialect of Conghua. The *give*-type is played by the double-object verb GIVE in the respective dialects, such as 給 in the Mandarin dialects, 撥 in the Wu dialects, 把 in the Xiang dialects, 分 in the Hakka dialects, 互/乞 in the Min dialects and 畀 in the Yue dialects.

Typologically speaking, both the *go*-type and the *give*-type indirect object markers are cross-linguistically attested but it is not common for a language to possess both types of indirect object markers. The pre-modern Yue dialects however are reported to use the *go*-type indirect marker in the 19th century which was then gradually replaced by the *give*-type. By means of a corpus of pre-modern Yue dialect materials and the recent field work data on the Yue dialect of Conghua, this paper will explore the syntactic and semantic factors contributing to the development of the *go*-type indirect object marker to the *give*-type.

Keywords: *indirect object marker, typology, grammaticalization*

Principal Investigator: **Peppina LEE** (The City University of Hong Kong)
Project Title: **A Semantic Investigation of Post-verbal Focusing and Focus-sensitive Particles and Information Packaging in Cantonese**

Abstract:

As compared to Mandarin, Cantonese demonstrates a unique feature of having an unusually rich repertoire of post-verbal particles which appear at a suffixal position attached to the verb, resulting in the sequence of "V(erb)+C(omplement)+Suffix" (henceforth, "verbal suffixes") and sentence-final particles (henceforth, "SFPs"). This project aims to study the semantic properties and the information-structural characterization of the post-verbal focusing particles, namely the verbal suffixes and SFPs mentioned above, and compare them with their pre-verbal counterparts, namely focus adverbs. The study will also be extended to include those post-verbal particles which are sensitive to focus, to find out how they, together with post-verbal focusing particles and focus adverbs, help to encode information in the sentence. The ultimate objective of the project is to answer the question why Cantonese appeals to such a rich system of post-verbal particles, despite the existence of their pre-verbal counterparts, from the semantic aspect and most importantly, from the information-structural aspect. Moreover, does the great discrepancy in the number of post-verbal particles between Cantonese and Mandarin reflect a distinct system of information encoding in Cantonese? How post-verbal focusing and focus-sensitive particles and focus adverbs, with both being important and unique information-structural imports in Cantonese, divide their labor in terms of information packaging and partitioning? The project represents the first theoretical study which systematically examines Cantonese post-verbal particles from the semantic aspect and the aspect of information structuring. Although the proposed research focuses on Cantonese, the ultimate goal of this research is to find out the underlying principles or laws that govern the interaction of semantics with pragmatics and the packaging and partitioning of information in natural language. This study contributes to the current linguistic endeavor by reshaping and refining existing theories on focus and information structure. Besides its theoretical importance on the current linguistic theories, the description of features which are unique to Cantonese will prove useful in the learning of Cantonese and contrastive studies between Cantonese and Mandarin in the future.

Principal Investigator: **LEE Wai Sum** (The City University of Hong Kong)
Co-Investigator: **Eric ZEE** (The City University of Hong Kong)
Project Title: **Dispersion and Variability of Male and Female Vowels - Data from Three Chinese Dialects**

Abstract:

Vowel is a subject which has attracted much interest and attention of phoneticians over many decades and there has been a large body of publications in the literature of acoustical and perceptual theories of vowels. The proposed research explores two related theoretical issues of acoustic realization of vowels: (i) vowel dispersion and vowel variability, reported to be constrained by the principles of maximal and sufficient perceptual contrasts, and (ii) the non-uniform scaling relationship between male and female vowel formant values across vowel categories and across individual formants. Implications for the vowel dispersion and vowel variability theory are (i) acoustic realization of vowel categories depends on vowel inventory size and (ii) variability of individual vowels and individual formants is inversely related to vowel inventory size. As a consequence of a longer vocal tract for males than females and a difference in the ratio of pharynx length to the overall vocal tract length between males than females, degrees of vowel dispersion and vowel variability across vowel categories and individual formants between males and females are expected to differ non-uniformly. The proposed research inquires into the effect of vowel phoneme inventory size on dispersion of vowel categories in the F1F2 acoustic vowel space and degree of variability in individual vowel categories and individual formants in male and female vowels of Chinese dialects. An earlier typological study of vowel sounds and vowel

systems of genetically and areally balanced Chinese dialects reveal that the size of vowel phoneme inventories ranges from three and twelve. First-hand male and female vowel formant data are to be collected from Chinese dialects with vowel phoneme inventories of the two extreme numbers and more. Results of this study are expected to contribute to discussions in the literature of vowel dispersion theory in connection to vowel inventory size and male-female differences in the spectral realization of vowel categories with data and evidence from Chinese dialects.

Principal Investigator: **ZHU Xiaonong** (The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology)

Project Title: **Chinese Tones: Their Phonetic Properties, Typological Universals and Trajectories of Evolution**

Abstract:

The Chinese language has tones, which means pitch can distinguish meaning. (The English pronunciation of "see" sounds like the word for "poem" in Cantonese, whereas the second syllable in "fancy" by itself, at a lower pitch, means "time" to Cantonese-speakers.) Previous fieldwork on tones in Chinese dialects, though copious, suffers from three limitations. There was no precise measurement of pitch (in hertz). The relation between tone and phonation types (i.e., the various modes of the vocal cords in articulation) was not understood. Lastly, the five-level system commonly used to represent tones is inherently imprecise. For example, a low falling pitch (dropping roughly from Level 3 to Level 1) can be arbitrarily transcribed as [31], [32] or [21]. For four reasons, the tones of Chinese dialects can now be studied fruitfully. Firstly, new hardware and software make it much easier to record and analyze tones. Secondly, the new field "experimental phonology", centering upon instrumental analysis and getting much attention in the West, yearns for falsifiable generalizations on tones. Thirdly, the Principal Investigator of the present project has proposed a new model for transcribing tones, which eliminates arbitrariness, incorporates phonation types, and delimits possible patterns of tonal contrast that can be practicably tested on natural languages. Fourthly, the PI has established a systematic procedure covering fieldwork investigations and laboratory analyses (including the Log z-score normalization, a mathematical treatment that will remove idiosyncratic differences in the pronunciation of tones), thereby making it plausible to compare tones in different dialects scientifically. The PI plans to make quality digital recordings of pronunciations by several speakers at two to six locations for each of eleven major regional varieties of Chinese. He will then conduct instrumental measurement and statistical analyses in laboratory work on the recordings to tackle questions of momentous topics. First, on universal principles governing tonal systems: (a) What is the maximum number of, say, falling tones in a dialect? (b) What are the most common patterns of tonal contrast? If a language has six tones, what will they likely be? Second, on the historical development of tones: (a) How and why does a tonal system change? (b) How did the present distribution of tonal contrasts in Chinese dialects across the country come about? Research findings will contribute to typology, phonology (historical and theoretical), and cognitive processing of tone. Impact will be far-ranging since many languages in Africa and the Americas are also tonal.