



The Linguistic Society of Hong Kong Newsletter

香港語言學學會通訊

Issue 1, 2011

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Editors of this issue:
Bit-Chee KWOK (CityU) and Carine YIU (HKUST)





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 12, 2009 at Hong Kong Institute of Education. Its members are as follows: Haihua PAN (President), Sze-Wing TANG (Vice-President), Peppina LEE (Secretary), John WAKEFIELD (Treasurer), Peggy MOK (Communications Coordinator), Bit-chee KWOK (Newsletter Editor), Candice CHEUNG and Carine YIU (members-at-large).

1.2. Membership

We are delighted to welcome 39 new members (4 Life Members, 7 Regular Members, 7 Affiliated Members, and 21 Student Members) who joined the Society this year and very pleased to see the rapid growth of the Society's membership.

2. Activities

2.1 LSHK Workshop on Cantonese

The 10th LSHK Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-10), with the theme New Horizons in Cantonese Grammar, was held successfully on Saturday, November 13, 2010 in G04 Y.C. Liang Hall at CUHK. It was co-sponsored by LSHK and the Research Centre for Cantonese of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK. Selected papers from WOC-10 will be published in *Chinese Language Studies* (《中國語文研究》).

2.2 Awards

LSHK Outstanding Thesis Award

I would like to congratulate the three winners of this year's award, Xiangjun DENG's MPhil thesis (CUHK) on the Acquisition of the Resultative Verb Compound in Mandarin Chinese, Hin Yee WONG's MPhil thesis (CUHK) on the Acquisition of Verb Particle Constructions in Cantonese-English Bilingual Children, and Xiaochun CAI's MA thesis (CUHK) on the Sentence-Medial Particles in Shantou Dialect on the Chinese locative words with *shang*. On behalf of the ExCom, I would like to express our appreciation to all the anonymous reviewers for their professional and fair judgments on the nominated theses, and to John WAKEFIELD, Peppina LEE and Bit-chee KWOK for coordinating the job.

LSHK Outstanding Student Paper Award

This award aims to encourage postgraduate students to conduct research on Cantonese linguistics. Four finalists were shortlisted for presentation in the 15th International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects to be held in Macau Polytechnic Institute on 13-15 December 2010. The candidates had been informed of the result in early November. On behalf of the ExCom, I would like to express our appreciation to all the anonymous reviewers for their professional and fair judgments on the nominated theses, and to Sze-wing TANG, Bit-chee KWOK and Peppina LEE for coordinating the job.

2.3 E-newsletters

To facilitate effective academic discussions among our members over the internet, e-newsletters were published. The first issue was posted on our website in May. The second issue will be posted by early January 2011. On behalf of the ExCom, I would like to express our appreciation to Bit-chee KWOK and Carine YIU for coordinating the job.

3 Sponsorship

3.1 The Society co-sponsored the 16th Symposium on Modern Chinese Grammar, co-organized by the Institute of Language Research, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing and the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics, CityU.



The Symposium was held on June 8-10, 2010 at CityU.

4 Financial Situation

4.1 This is a healthy year for the Society, as will be reflected and detailed in the Treasury Report.

5 Plans for 2011

5.1 Conferences on Cantonese linguistics

WOC-11 will be organized by LSHK and hosted by the Research Centre on Linguistics and Language Information Sciences (RCLIS) at HKIEd on March 5, 2011. It is also expected that the Society will be involved actively in the International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects and will play a leading role in organizing the conference when it is held in Hong Kong. It is highly likely that the conference will be held in Hong Kong in 2011.

5.2 LSHK Award for Outstanding Student Paper on Cantonese Linguistics

We plan to organize the fourth LSHK Award for Outstanding Student Paper on Cantonese Linguistics. It is hoped that this award will become a trademark of the Society.

5.3 The 7th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics

The 7th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics

The Society has initiated and will organize the '7th LSHK Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics' (PRFL-7) to be held at the City University of Hong Kong in May next year.

5.4 The 16th LSHK International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects

The Society has initiated and will co-organize the '16th International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects' to be held at the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong in December 2011.

6 Acknowledgments

6.1 To the host of LSHK-ARF 2010

Many thanks go to the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the host and the sponsor of the ARF this year, and particularly to Dr. Peggy Mok and Dr. Candice Cheung, Head of the Department, for their help and generous support.

6.2 To other ExCom members

It has been a great pleasure to be the President of the Society. I would like to thank the other committee members for their assistance, support and understanding. I'd also like to thank Sze-Wing for taking up some of my responsibilities while I'm away from HK. 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.

6.3 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!

Haihua PAN
President, LSHK
December 4, 2010



Financial Report

(December 13, 2009 to December 3, 2010)

	<u>HK\$</u>	<u>US\$</u>
1. Account Balance at Period End (as of December 12, 2009)		
1) Hang Seng Savings A	508,455.24	
2) Hang Seng Current A	10,523.32	
3) <i>Hang Seng US\$ Timed Deposit</i>	0	<i>12,672.87</i>
4) <i>Hang Seng US\$ Savings</i>	0	<i>909.79</i>
	518,978.56	13,582.66
<hr/>		
Total	<u>518,978.56</u>	<u>13,582.66</u>
2. Current Period Net Income (See Income Statement for details)		
	18,460.55	112.58
3. Account Balance at Period End (as of December 3, 2010)		
1) Hang Seng Savings A	513,231.69	
2) Hang Seng Current A	24,207.42	
3) <i>Hang Seng US\$ Timed Deposit</i>	0	<i>12,674.20</i>
4) <i>Hang Seng US\$ Savings</i>	0	<i>1,021.04</i>
	537,439.11	13,695.24
<hr/>		
Total	<u>537,439.11</u>	<u>13,695.24</u>

Prepared by **John Wakefield**, Treasurer



Congratulations to Winners of LSHK Awards



The Outstanding Thesis Award of 2010 (M.Phil.)

Name: **Xiangjun DENG**, Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Title: The Acquisition of the Resultative Verb Compound in Mandarin Chinese

Abstract:

In Mandarin Chinese, the Resultative Verb Compound (RVC) is formed by a lexical rule combining two verbs, one representing an activity, and the other the resultant state. The RVC shows different degrees of compositionality, with respect to the extent to which its meaning can be derived from the meanings of the component verbs. The three major types of RVCs are result-state, directional and completive RVCs. The structure of the RVC has been analyzed in different ways. Some proposals argue for a syntactic derivation of the RVC despite its lexical status. Other proposals have centered on whether V1 or V2 is the head of the RVC, and whether the activity or the resultant state is more salient in the event structure encoded by the RVC.

Previous acquisition studies have revealed that the RVC's compositionality and event structure are not fully acquired before three years of age. Some studies found that half of the children's RVCs were unanalyzed (Xu 2006), while other studies reported that two-year-olds had difficulty in producing and interpreting V1 of the RVC (Erbaugh 1982, Chen 2005). Findings conflict on the acquisition process revealed by early RVCs. Xu (2006) and Chen (2008) showed that children's early RVCs were item-based and input-driven, while Yang (2006) and Xiao *et al.* (2006) reported that children used a great number of verbs as V2, pointing to the possible existence of RVC-formation rules even before two.

Our longitudinal data from two Mandarin-speaking children show their first use of RVC at around 1;7. In their development up to 2;6, both children used more directional and completive RVCs than the result-state ones. The distribution of the three types of RVCs in child speech did not match that in the adult input in the earliest stage of syntactic development. During 1;7-1;9, 40% of the children's RVCs were fully compositional, half were partially compositional, and 10% were unanalyzed. In later development, more RVCs became fully compositional, with a higher compositionality observed in the directional and completive RVCs than in the result-state RVCs. Between one-fifth to one-quarter of the children's RVCs were not found in the adult input. Children's deviant uses included omissions of V2 and the use of RVC without modal or aspectual marking to express an ongoing or imminent event.

In a novel verb experiment conducted on 32 children aged from 2;9 to 4;0, we found that six children had the ability to decompose and form novel RVCs. They relied heavily on V1 to interpret directional RVCs, and on V2 to process and produce result-state RVCs.

We argue that the lexicalist approach to RVC formation can better account for our data than the syntactic approach. Our data lend support to the rule-based learning of the RVC. Children master the event structure of RVC and its interaction with aspectuality gradually. We argue that the headedness of the RVC in relation to event structure depends on its type: V2 is more salient than V1 for the result-state RVC, while V1 is more salient than V2 for the directional RVC.

The Outstanding Thesis Award of 2010 (M.Phil.)

Name: **Hin Yee WONG**, Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Title: The Acquisition of Verb Particle Constructions in Cantonese-English Bilingual children

Abstract:



Cross-linguistic influence in bilingual first language acquisition has been widely identified in various linguistic domains with different language pairs. This corpus-based study investigates the factors governing cross-linguistic influence, including structural overlap, language dominance and language input by studying the acquisition of English verb particle construction (VPC) in seven bilingual Cantonese-English children. English VPC allows two types of word order, namely the split [verb-object-particle] and non-split [verb-particle-object] form, whereas the corresponding form simple Cantonese directional complement construction (DVC) permits only one of the two orders allowed (i.e., the non-split order [verb-simple directional complement-object]) in English VPCs. Although the word order in English VPCs and Cantonese DVCs constitute a partial overlap, the two are different in terms of the properties of their constituents and the compositionality of meaning. Results show that Cantonese-dominant bilingual children tend to produce non-split English VPCs much more frequently than monolingual children, and non-target forms related to VPC word order which are not reported in monolingual development are also found. In Cantonese DVCs, bilingual children produced non-target forms associated with the placement of objects and the use of directional complements which are not found in Cantonese monolinguals. These findings reveal that cross-linguistic influence takes place in both directions, where structural overlap and language dominance can account for the domain and extent of its occurrence.

The Outstanding Thesis Award of 2010 (M.A.)

Name: **Xiaochun CAI**, Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Title: Sentence-medial particles in Shantou dialect

Abstract:

Shantou dialect is a young dialect, for it did not develop until the establishment of the city of Shantou in 1921; Shantou dialect is also an 'old' dialect because it stems from the Chaoshan dialect group, which is famous for its preservation of many archaic Chinese features. In recent decades, the Chaoshan dialect group is receiving more and more attention. However, some aspects of Chaoshan dialects are under-researched, such as the sentence-medial particles and the topic-comment structure.

This dissertation aims at providing a comprehensive study of sentence-medial particles in Shantou dialect. They are altogether ten sentence-medial particles available in Shantou dialect, including *a*, *ma*, *na*, *tā*, *lo*, *mo*, *no*, *to*, *ne*, and *li*, out of which six are chosen for the current study: *a*, *tā*, *lo*, *mo*, *ne*, and *li*. Lin (1992) defines these particles as 'modality particles' and Lin (2005) defines them as 'mood particles'. This study proposes that the sentence-medial particles *a* and *li* in one-topic sentences, and *mo* and *li* in two-topic sentences in Shantou dialect are topic markers. It is found that in single-topic sentences, the particle *a* activates the 'old' information as the topic; *li* is used to contrast the marked topic with other discourse elements beyond the local sentence. In double-topic sentences, the sentence-medial particle *mo* marks the old information as the topic, while *li* contrasts the marked topic with other discourse elements beyond the local sentence as it does in single-topic sentences. This thesis focuses on the topic structure of the Shantou dialect and the interaction between the sentence-medial particles and topic structures.

LSHK Outstanding Student Paper Award in the 15th International Conference on Cantonese and Yue Dialects

Name: **Yunming SHAN** 單韻鳴 (廣州)暨南大學中文系

Title: 廣州話用作連接成份的「得嚟」及其他

Abstract:

广州话的“得嚟”是一个动词后置成分，它在句中起到连接句子的作用，我们首先从语义、句法功能及用法各方面描述其特征，再联系与其形式相近的其他成分，论述它们的区别和可能存在的关系，最后指出“得嚟”用作后置连接成分具有语言普遍性特征。



漢語數碼化教與學國際會議

截止日期： 2011年7月29日
會議日期： 2011年11月25-27日
會議地點： 香港教育學院
官方網站：<http://www.rclis.ied.edu.hk/iccltda/>

香港教育學院將在本年11月舉辦「漢語數碼化教與學」國際會議。

會議有兩大主題（詳細資料請參閱官方網站）：

- (1) 語言：漢語教與學，漢語學習和評估等；
- (2) 技術：現代科技在漢語教學中的應用。

我們歡迎對漢語教學有心得和興趣的學者參與會議及發表文章，形式包括口頭報告論文(oral presentation)、專題小組(panel)或產品介紹。如有興趣，請在7月29日前把論文摘要、專題小組建議書或產品概要[300-500字(英文)或800字(中文)]郵寄至 iccltda@gmail.com。



第十六屆國際粵方言研討會

截止日期： 2011年9月9日
會議日期： 2011年12月15-16日
會議地點： 香港理工大學
官方網站：<http://www.yue2011.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/>

「第十六屆國際粵方言研討會」歡迎粵語各領域相關研究的論文。論文報告時間暫訂為20分鐘，討論時間10分鐘。

論文提要事宜：

- (1) 論文提要可用中文或英文撰寫，不超過一頁A4紙。電腦打字請用12點或內地的五號。
- (2) 以電郵附件形式投寄提要時，須MS Word檔及pdf檔兼備。
- (3) 請提交論文提要兩份，一份署名，一份匿名。提要請以電郵寄到下述電郵地址：yue2011.papers@polyu.edu.hk。
- (4) 提交論文提要時，請附論文提交表格(參看研討會的官方網頁)，並注明：論文題目；作者姓名；所屬單位；通訊地址；電郵地址。
- (5) 重要日期：論文提要投寄截止日期：2011年9月9日(星期五)；提要評審結果公佈日期：2011年10月31日(星期一)。接受邀請者，應儘快以書面或電郵作出確認。
- (6) 有關論文提要的問題或查詢，請以電郵寄到yue2011.papers@polyu.edu.hk，學術組人員會在兩個工作天內回覆。

The 2011 Annual Research Forum of LSHK

Deadline for Submissions: October 10, 2011
Date: December 3, 2011
Venue: City University of Hong Kong
Inquiries: lshk.linguists@gmail.com

We are thrilled to announce that this year is the society's silver anniversary! The current executive committee would like to express its congratulations and gratitude to everyone who has worked over the past 25 years to make LSHK such a success. There

will be a special banquet at this year's Annual Research Forum to celebrate this historic occasion. Details of the banquet will be announced later.

LSHK members are cordially invited to attend and to present papers at the 2011 Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (LSHK-ARF 2011), which will be hosted by the City University of Hong Kong, on December 3, 2011 (Saturday).

As is customary ARF practice, there will be parallel sessions, and papers related to any area of linguistics are welcome. Every paper will be allotted 20 minutes for oral presentation and 10 minutes for discussion.

Please note that **all** presenters have to be an LSHK member. If you are not yet a member, please apply for the LSHK membership by filling in the application form which can be downloaded from www.lshk.org.

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.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong, a special session which discusses the future development of linguistics in Hong Kong will be included in the forum this year. Members are welcome to submit papers related to this theme. Moreover, members who would like to propose a discussion session based on a particular theme or a theme-based parallel session are also welcome to send a proposal (maximum two pages) to the LSHK Executive Committee, specifying the theme and the format of the session and target participants.

ARF abstract submissions and registration will be done **online** at www.lshk.org. Email and/or paper abstract submissions will NOT be accepted.

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

The 2011 LSHK Outstanding Thesis Award

Deadline for Submissions: September 5, 2011

Inquiries: lshk.linguists@gmail.com

The Linguistic Society of Hong Kong is now inviting nomination for the 2011 LSHK Outstanding Thesis Award. The deadline for nomination and submission of theses is September 5, 2011 (Monday). Other details are given as follows:

(1) Topic

Any outstanding thesis which contributes to any area in linguistics will be considered.

(2) Category

There are three categories:

M.A. thesis (awarded within the academic year of 2010/2011)

M.Phil. thesis (awarded within the academic year of 2010/2011)

Ph.D. thesis (awarded within the academic year of 2010/2011)

Note:

"Awarded within the academic year of 2010/2011" is defined as follows: the student must have the final copy of his/her thesis submitted to the graduate school or the university (for MPhil and PhD theses) and submitted to and approved by the department (for MA theses) during the period from 1 September 2010 to 31 August 2011.

(3) Eligibility



Only students enrolled at local tertiary education institutions are eligible. The Chief Supervisor must be a regular staff member at a local tertiary education institution and an LSHK member to be eligible to nominate his/her students. The nomination must be made by the Chief Supervisor. No supervisor should submit more than one nomination per category in any year.

(4) Procedure

Please submit a hard copy and a soft copy of the thesis for review. The review process will be completed in early November, and only winners will be notified. The supervisor should ensure that the winner agrees to give a presentation of the thesis at the 2011 Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong on December 3, 2011. Presentation materials should be sent to the LSHK Executive Committee no later than 21 Nov 2011 at ctpllee@cityu.edu.hk, and failing to do so may lead to disqualification.

(5) Submission Methods:

The hard copy of the thesis can be mailed to the address below:

Dr. Peppina Lee
Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics
City University of Hong Kong
83 Tat Chee Avenue, CityU of HK, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
Please e-mail the soft copy of the thesis to ctpllee@cityu.edu.hk.

Upcoming Events

Association for Linguistic Typology 9th Biennial Meeting (ALT-9)

Date: July 21-24, 2011
Venue: The University of Hong Kong

Inquiries:

Email: ALT9HKU@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.hku.hk/linguist/alt9/Home.html>

The 17th International Congress on Phonetic Sciences (ICPhs-17)



Date: August 17-21, 2011

Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Organizers: The 17th International Congress is jointly organized by the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics at the City University of Hong Kong, the Institute of Linguistics at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, and the Institute of Linguistics at the Academia Sinica, Taipei, under the auspices of the Permanent Council for the Organization of the International Congresses of Phonetic Sciences and the International Phonetic Association.

Plenary Speakers: Randy L. Diehl (University of Texas), Sarah Hawkins (University of Cambridge), Klaus J. Kohler (University of Kiel), Ian Maddieson (University of California,



Berkeley / University of New Mexico), Louis C.W. Pols (University of Amsterdam), Daniel Recasens (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Jacqueline Vaissière (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris 3)

Inquiries:

Email: icphs2011@cityu.edu.hk

Website: <http://www.icphs2011.hk>

Post Conference Reports

第十五屆國際粵方言研討會

會議日期：2010年12月13日至15日

會議地點：澳門理工學院



由澳門中國語文學會、澳門粵方言學會、澳門理工學院聯合主辦的「第十五屆國際粵方言研討會」，2010年12月13日至15日在澳門理工學院召開。

這次會議收到了84篇論文，參加者來自內地、港澳、台灣、日本、星加坡和美國。大會特別邀請了詹伯慧教授、單周堯教授、張振興教授、張惠英教授及劉村漢教授擔任大會發言嘉賓。

會議首天舉辦了由香港語言學學會設立的「第三屆香港語言學學會粵語語言學傑出學生論文獎競賽」。論文獎的目的是為了鼓勵更多學生（本科生及研究生）從事粵語研究工作。這個競賽已經成為了「國際粵方言研討會」其中一個重要的環節。本屆的競爭非常激烈，一共有四位來自香港和內地的學生參加比賽。他們要在評審團面前作口頭報告，並接受提問。比賽結果在會議的晚宴上公布。得獎者是廣州暨南大學博士研究生單韻鳴同學。她的論文題目是「廣州話用作連接成份的『得嚟』及其他」。

「第十六屆國際粵方言研討會」將於2011年12月在香港理工大學舉行。張群顯教授代表香港理工大學及「北京大學-香港理工大學漢語語言學研究中心」介紹了「第十六屆國際粵方言研討會」的籌備情況。

Contributed by
Bit-Chee KWOK (CityU)

The 11th Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-11)

Date: March 5, 2011

Venue: The Hong Kong Institute of Education

Website: <http://www.rclis.ied.edu.hk/woc11>

The Eleventh Workshop on Cantonese (WOC-11), co-sponsored by the Research Centre on Linguistics and Language Information Sciences, the Hong Kong Institute of Education, was held on March 5 2011 (Sat). The theme of WOC-11 was **Syntax and Semantics of Nominals in Cantonese**. A total of 7 papers were presented which covered a wide range of topics and took on different approaches, such as sign language, toponyms, cognitive



linguistics, psycholinguistics, and cross-dialectal comparison.

Speaker (in the order of presentations)	Paper title
Felix Sze, Gladys Tang, Tammy Lau, Emily Lam, Chris Yiu	Development of NP structures and discourse referencing skill in spoken Cantonese narratives by deaf/hard-of-hearing children in a sign bilingual and co-enrolment programme
Kenny Mok	A study on the extent of influence of Cantonese shape classifiers on the perception of object features
林華勇、張慶文	廣東廉江方言與山東泰安方言的一種方位名詞短語
錢志安	從粵語方位名詞談語言對稱現象
片岡新	香港地名結構初探
張慶文、鄧思穎	共性與差異：粵語四種方言的名詞短語比較
吳福祥	漢語定語標記的多功能模式

Contributed by
Andy CHIN (HKIEd)

香港教育學院訪問教授計劃

到訪學者：沈家煊教授（中國社會科學院）

日期：2011年3月至4月

地點：香港教育學院

香港教育學院訪問教授計畫的設立，旨在推動學院與國際間的學術交流，提昇研究及教學水平。繼去年美國賓夕法尼亞大學梅維恒教授（Prof. Mair, H. Victor）及臺灣國立政治大學林啟屏教授到訪後，著名語言學家沈家煊教授亦於本年三、四月間蒞臨語文學院任高級訪問教授。在為期兩個月的訪問中，沈教授共擔任兩場學術講座主講嘉賓，並與中文學系師生進行座談交流，以及主持「漢語語言學研究新進展」工作坊。

首次公開講座舉辦於3月22日，題目為「漢語語法研究擺脫印歐眼光」。沈教授提出「要擺脫印歐的眼光」是「要擺脫印歐語眼光的束縛」，認為用印歐語的框框來套漢語當然不對，但是用印歐語的眼光來觀察漢語是必要的。第二次講座「話題『李白』和『杜甫』的引入」在4月13日舉行。沈教授從詩人「出場」句子的使用作為引子，論述「擺事實」及「講道理」間的關係，從而說明語法研究方法：1. 擺事實是講道理的基礎；2. 如果沒有理論知識及理論眼光，要擺的事實便擺不到位；3. 擺事實與講道理是一件事情的兩個方面。至於「語言研究發展及語言學科課程設計」座談交流會在3月30日舉辦，沈教授就漢語語言學科的研究及教學兩方面與學院師生進行交流，提供了不少寶貴的意見。



此外，沈教授亦應中文學系的邀請擔任4月9日「漢語語言學研究新進展」工作坊主持人。十名來自本港大學的語言學專家在工作坊上就不同專題發表學術報告，當中包括沈家煊教授、石定栩教授、鄧思穎教授、沈培教授、孫景濤教授、馮勝利教授、朱曉農教授、潘海華教授、鄒嘉彥教授、張敏教授。而香港教育學院中文學系朱慶之教授、張連航博士、鄧佩玲博士、梁慧敏博士及語言資訊科學研究中心錢志安博士亦就個人的研究作了簡單的匯報。是次工作坊得到各大學師生的踴躍參與，台上下有積極的互動交流，討論氣氛熱烈。

Contributed by **Pui Ling TANG** (HKIEd)

大學中文的新發展研討會

日期： 2011年4月29日

地點： 香港中文大學

由香港中文大學中國語言及文學系主辦、中國語文教學發展中心協辦的「大學中文的新發展」研討會在2011年4月29日於香港中文大學李兆基樓舉行。發表報告的學者包括（按姓名的漢語拼音序）陳潔珊（恆生管理學院）、陳榮石（香港理工大學）、鄧思穎（香港中文大學）、何成邦（香港浸會大學）、李東輝（嶺南大學）、李蘊娜（香港城市大學專上學院）、唐世陶（香港科技大學）、謝家浩（香港教育學院）、楊玉峰（香港大學）。這是大學四年制新課程推行前，負責相關課程的學者首度聚首一堂，交流經驗，互相切磋，對大學中文教育的長遠發展具深遠意義。有關研討會的詳情，可瀏覽以下網頁：http://www.chi.cuhk.edu.hk/chlt_workshop/。



Contributed by **Sze Wing TANG** (CUHK)

漢語方言定語助詞研討會

日期： 2011年6月8-9日

地點： 香港中文大學



由香港中文大學中國語言及文學系主辦、粵語研究中心協辦的「漢語方言定語助詞研討會」在2011年6月8-9日於香港中文大學鄭裕彤樓舉行。舉辦這次研討會的主要目的，是希望從生成語法學的架構，探索漢語方言定語助詞的句法特點。南加州大學的李豔惠教授、香港理工大學的石定栩教授、國立清華大學的蔡維天教授擔任特邀發言人，哈佛大學的黃正德教授作大會總結發言。此外，一共有十六篇論文在會上發表，集中討論漢語定

語助詞的句法問題。所發表的論文都是見解獨到的學術成果，集中討論漢語定語助詞的句法問題，尤其是跟漢語方言相關。所涉及的漢語方言包括北方話、客家話、晉語、閩語、吳語、粵語等。出席兩天會議的參加者超過八十人，討論氣氛熱烈，提出了不少新見解、新發現。所發表的論文經遴選評審後，將以專書的形式輯錄成書，由北京大學出版社出版。有關研討會的詳情，可瀏覽以下網頁：<http://www.chi.cuhk.edu.hk/rcc/de/>。



Contributed by **Sze Wing TANG** (CUHK)

Members' Achievements

Adams Bodomo won FSI-Stanford Humanities Scholar Award

Congratulations to Adams!

News from the Stanford Humanities Center and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (March 16, 2011):

The Stanford Humanities Center and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) are pleased to announce that four international scholars have been



chosen to come to Stanford in 2011-12 as part of a jointly sponsored international program entering its third year. Nominated by Stanford departments and research centers, the international visitors will be on campus for four-week residencies. They will have offices at the Humanities Center and will be affiliated with their nominating unit, the Humanities Center, and FSI.

A major purpose of the residencies is to bring high-profile international scholars into the intellectual life of the university, targeting scholars whose research and writing engage with the missions of both the Humanities Center and FSI.

Adams Bodomo, Chair of the Department of Linguistics in the School of Humanities at the University of Hong Kong and the Director of the University's African Studies Program, has been selected for the upcoming academic year (October-November 2011).

Three Linguists Selected as Founding Fellows of the Hong Kong Academy of Humanities

Established in April 2011, top humanities scholars in Hong Kong pooled efforts to establish the Hong Kong Academy of Humanities (HKAH) dedicated to bringing together Hong Kong's leading humanities scholars to form a strong and united voice on behalf of the humanities, and to properly recognizing excellence in humanities scholarship and research. One LSHK member, Professor Chu-ren HUANG (Faculty of Humanities of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), and two other linguists, Professor Winnie CHENG (Faculty of Humanities of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) and Professor Kingsley BOLTON (College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences of the City University Hong Kong) are selected as Founding Fellows, together with other 36 fellows from eight government-funded institutions of higher education. Professor Chu-ren HUANG is also elected as one of the Foundation Executive Committee Members of the Academy.

Members' Publications (2010-now)

作者：鄧思穎

書名：形式漢語句法學

年份：2010年

出版社：上海教育出版社

ISBN：9787544430104



本書是《西方最新語言學理論譯介》叢書之一，撰寫的目的是希望系統地介紹形式漢語句法學研究的重要性及相關研究。主要採用形式句法學的短語結構理論，分析漢語各種句法現象。全書大致上參考一般「現代漢語」語法部分的體例編寫，把形式句法學的基本原理融入漢語語法的討論裏，力圖達到融合形式句法學和傳統語法學的目標。本書希望以讀者的母語作為分析對象，在比較熟悉的「現代漢語」的框架下，儘量涵蓋大多數漢語語法學常常討論的重要範疇，有系統地介紹形式句法學理論在漢語的應用，把比較抽象的概念，融合在具體的漢語語言事實裏，讓讀者容易掌握，從而用來分析漢語語法的問題。

Authors: **Peppina P-L LEE and Haihua PAN**
Title: **The landscape of additive particles --- with special reference to the Cantonese sentence-final particle *tim***
Journal: ***Lingua* 120**
Publication Year: 2010
Abstract: Previous analyses consider the Cantonese sentence-final particle *tim* 'add' to be like English "too" and "also" and/or "even". In this paper, we argue that *tim* is like none of the above, as it is a non-restricted additive particle which exhibits the following properties: (a) it does not rely on the extreme ends of the scale, (b) it is not sensitive to polarity; and (c) it is flexible in its scale selection. The flexibility of *tim* toward scale selection allows its scalar presupposition to be satisfied by either (a) having the degree or quantity marked by *tim* being greater or larger than the presupposed one, or (b) adding the additional quantity marked by *tim* on top of some presupposed quantity. Our analysis of *tim* represents a further refinement of Giannakidou's (2007) approach in the direction of "the landscape of additive particles", with the "even"-items occupying the polarity side. The connection of polarity-sensitivity with addition is found to be dependent on whether an additive particle relies on the extreme end of the scale and its flexibility toward scale selection. Such a landscape analysis is significant typologically, as it would predict that distinct lexical items will be found within and across languages.

Authors: **Bit-Chee KWOK, Andy C. CHIN and Benjamin K. TSOU**
Title: **Poly-functionality of the preverbal 'acquire' in the Nanning Yue dialect of Chinese: an areal perspective**
Journal: ***Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 74.1**
Publication Year: 2011
Abstract: This paper aims to explore the origin and to reconstruct the path of the development of a preverbal element, glossed as ACQ here, in the Nanning Yue dialect (NY) spoken in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in south-western China. Apart from being a full verb meaning "acquire", this morpheme can also appear in preverbal and post-verbal positions, expressing different modalities. It is argued that the preverbal ACQ in Early Cantonese (i.e. the ancestral language of modern Cantonese spoken in the Pearl River Delta as well as NY) is relatively non-productive, and this leads us to consider that the emergence of this peculiar grammatical element in modern NY might involve external factors. One possible such factor is language contact. Specifically, we argue that the new readings derived from the preverbal ACQ in NY were transferred from Zhuang, the most common non-Sinitic language of the Tai-Kadai family in Guangxi, by contact-induced interference.

Member's Recent Activity

Principal Investigator: **Paul LAW (City University of Hong Kong)**
Project Title: **Clause structure and word-order variation in Naxi**
Source of Funding: **GRF 2009/10**
Abstract:

The project has a two-fold objective. First, it seeks to verify empirically certain



syntactic principles of Universal Grammar for clause structure and word-order variation as applied to Naxi, a minority language spoken in Yunnan province, China. Second, it aims to enrich the empirical data base for this less well-studied language.

The project investigates a range of issues relating to constituency, clause structure, the subject/object asymmetry, the syntactic constraint on word-order variation and its semantic correlates in Naxi, in comparison with Japanese, Korean and Chinese. It draws some general, cross-linguistically valid conclusions for the syntax of natural language, thereby deepening the understanding of syntactic principles.

The choice of Naxi is motivated by several considerations. Syntactic theory is mostly built on the basis of well-studied languages like English, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. It is thus natural to test it in a less well-studied language like Naxi. Naxi is one of the few languages that offer the advantage of being similar to both an OV language like Japanese or Korean and a VO language like Chinese, and yet also different from both. A comparative analysis of Naxi, Japanese/Korean and Chinese promises to pose some challenges to current syntactic theory, for it is not a priori obvious how the account for the differences between Japanese/Korean and Chinese may apply to Naxi, a language that shares some features of both. In addition, thanks to the partial difference, Naxi may turn out to provide some crucial structures that are lacking in these languages on the basis of which certain unsettled issues in syntax may be resolved.

The empirical work of the project consists of extensive fieldwork eliciting data from native speakers and training some native speakers to transcribe the oral narratives of their language. The first part is guided by linguistic theory in that the data are specifically constructed to verify the empirical predictions of the theory, and the second part is to ensure that other facts of the language unforeseen by the theory are not overlooked. The data collected will be systematized and published in a book-form. It will most likely be the first book-sized publication of the syntax of Naxi in English.

The significance of the project is its theoretical contribution to syntactic research and its enriching of the documentation of the less well-studied language Naxi. It reciprocates the Naxi community by giving them the tools to record their oral traditions thereby preserving their language and culture.