

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER 2015 ISSUE NO.1

 THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

VIEWPOINTS



Dr Gail Forey Awarded President's Award for Excellent Performance/Achievement in Teaching

Dr Gail Forey, Associate Professor of Department of English, was named recipient of the President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement 2013/2014 in Teaching (Individual Award). The FH Newsletter has invited Dr Forey to share her experience in teaching.

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Sharing of the ELC Team on ERW (English Reading and Writing)

Up until 2013, the implementation model of the university-wide ERW programme was developed and coordinated solely by Ms Shari Dureshrwar Lughmani with Ms Gigi Au Yeung as Project Associate from the English Language Centre (ELC). The decision by the University to upscale the programme because of ...

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MOOC - English@Work in Asia: Job applications

Have you heard about MOOCs? A MOOC is a Massive Online Open Course; it is massive - thousands of students enrol in the courses; it is generally 100% online although increasingly face to face elements are built into the courses; it is usually open to anyone in the world free of charge.

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New TPg programmes

Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies is pleased to announce the launch of TWO one-of-a-kind Taught Postgraduate Programmes, namely the Master of Arts in Bilingual Corporate Communication (MABCC) and Japanese Media and Communication (MAJMC), in September 2015.

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The Four Books and Modern Chinese Culture

The lecture "The Four Books and Modern Chinese Culture" (《四書》與近世中國文化簡介) by Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities was held on 20 March 2015.

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Prestigious Appointments of FH Academics

Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor of Applied Chinese Language Studies, was re-elected as President of Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities (HKAH) for the third term. Prof. Shi Dingxu, Chair Professor of Chinese Linguistics and Interim Head of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, was elec...

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Viewpoints

Dr Gail Forey Awarded President's Award for Excellent Performance/Achievement in Teaching



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Sharing by Dr Gail Forey

I'd like to say how honoured I am to receive this award. They often say in teaching we teach how we were taught. I'm not sure that's so true. I've been lucky enough to be taught by some inspirational teachers. In fact, that is why I'm standing here today. It was one particular teacher at secondary school that influenced me and helped to open doors that lead to where I stand today. Teachers can and do make a difference! I believe in teaching. We learn from others, by watching others and by working with others. I'm lucky that I'm surrounded by great teachers, and currently two inspirational leaders Christian Matthiessen and Xu Xunfeng, thank you both. In our Department we have a great team, and I'd like to share this award with all the outstanding teachers I have had the privilege to work with here in the Department of English and elsewhere!

I've been teaching at PolyU since 1995, an incredible 20 years which seem to have flashed by in an instant. I love my work, I love my students, and I love teaching. I believe my job as a teacher is to provide opportunities to every student, to support them in whatever way I can to help them develop, become more knowledgeable, and become better people.

As the Programme Leader for the Master of Arts in English Language Teaching, I work very closely with teachers. And as an applied linguist, discourse analyst and teacher, I have increasingly become interested in language as the primary resource for meaning making in the classroom. I have been extremely fortunate to work with John Polias and Bette Li, providing professional development workshops for teachers with a focus on teaching through English, disciplinary literacy and pedagogy. We have been awarded over 8 million dollars in funds to run seven projects, offering workshops and support to over 500 local teachers - Technology, Physical Education, Art, Science teachers as well as a general introduction to Academic English. As part of this work, John, Bette and myself have all given plenary presentations and have supported some of the teachers who attended the workshops to share their best practice with others at these Sharing Sessions. There have been over 750 teachers attending the three Sharing Sessions. Through these workshops we have conducted research, which has entailed further practical benefits for teachers. We've developed the teaching

learning cycle as a pedagogical approach that is applicable to all disciplines. We've also published papers and are currently working on a research project and a book together.

For me it is the engagement, the mental stimulation and the laughter that I get from teaching and working with students and colleagues in the Department that has resulted in me loving the work I do. There are many other deserving teachers who excel in their work and inspire their students, and carrying out research in the classroom. I hope to learn from them. Finally, a thank you to my students and colleagues who nominated me for this award!

Viewpoints

Sharing of the ELC Team on ERW (English Reading and Writing)

Up until 2013, the implementation model of the university-wide ERW programme was developed and coordinated solely by Ms Shari Dureshwar Lughmani with Ms Gigi Au Yeung as Project Associate from the English Language Centre (ELC). The decision by the University to upscale the programme because of its positive impact on students' written abilities, however, led to the need for a team that would shoulder the expanded responsibilities and assist in the management of the programme. The first team was composed of seven members and was formed in late 2013. This team won the Faculty Award for services. Members of the award-winning team were:

Ms Shari Dureshwar Lughmani (Coordinator)
Dr Svetlana Chigaeva-Heddad (Sub-coordinator)
Ms Bilands DY (Liaison)
Mr Andrew Northern (Liaison)
Mr Jim Lo (Liaison)
Ms Michelle Raquel (Liaison)
Ms Gigi Au Yeung (Project Associate)

The current team carries on the tradition, has expanded to cater for an even bigger student population and meets on a regular basis through semesters and semester breaks.

Its major responsibilities have been to:

1. negotiate writing assignment details with subject lecturers
2. develop assignment instructions, draft checklists and genre guides
3. liaise with subject lecturers throughout the semester and answer their queries
4. communicate with students throughout the semester and answer their queries

Through its caring and collaborative approach to communication with the various departments across the University, and its continuous search for better resources and services to enhance students' writing abilities across the curriculum, the team has won the hearts and minds of the subject teachers who can witness the cognitive/intellectual gains that their students have been able to demonstrate through their writings supported by the ELC's Writing Requirement Team.

Students generally perceived their writing ability to have improved compared with other students before and after having taken the writing requirement with the ELC. When answering the question, "What did you do to improve your writing?" (as a result of the feedback), students mentioned having addressed issues including those related to style, proof-reading, audience awareness, grammar, considering teachers' suggestions carefully in organising ideas and enriching the content, and using a variety of sources.

Feedback from CAR subject teachers has been very positive. Some quotations below provide the most valued aspects.

How has this experience changed your perceptions about your students' reading and writing practices?

Before, I was appalled at students' writing ability and put it down to a combination of English weakness and muddled thinking. Now I put it down to not enough small group or one-to-one contact with English writing experts. Now, I don't think their problems were due to grammar weakness. Maybe part of the problem is due to poor English/English teaching in schools.

How did the process of working with the ELC on the Writing Requirement task affect your teaching practice/thinking?

I am more confident in the students' abilities all-round (This collaboration) reinforces my impression that the students can excel once they are told the 'how' as well as the 'what'... Now I just have to spell out the requirements, expectations, topics and questions at the beginning of the semester, and don't have to worry whether the students are making constant progress with their writing. In the past I asked the students to take turns to do individual presentation in the

tutorial, and the presentation topics were the same as their essay topics. The allocation of topics has usually been a difficulty, as students were required to share the topics more or less evenly, and some students had to present much earlier than other students. It was difficult to take care of student interest and disparity of presentation time simultaneously. Now by putting the writing task on a fixed path [with the ELC], I can disconnect the [subject] tutorial from the writing assignment.

Based on its sterling work, its dedication to the PolyU community and its constant striving for excellence, the team has won recognition throughout the University and has made the role of English felt among the learning, teaching and research community of PolyU.



*Front row (from left): Ms Bilands DY, Mr Andrew Northern, Mr Jim Lo, Ms Christine Burns
Back row (from left): Dr Svetlana Chigaeva, Ms Shari Lughmani, Ms Gigi AuYeung, Ms Man Chan*

Highlights

MOOC - English@Work in Asia: Job applications



English @Work in Asia

Job applications

Have you heard about MOOCs? A MOOC is a Massive Online Open Course; it is massive - thousands of students enrol in the courses; it is generally 100% online although increasingly face to face elements are built into the courses; it is usually open to anyone in the world free of charge.

PolyU is launching a series of MOOCs on the eDX platform in the coming year, with the English Language Centre's (ELC's) MOOC, English@Work in Asia: Job applications, scheduled to get underway in the 4th quarter of 2015. A small team from the ELC is hard at work producing new videos and online content for the course.

English@Work in Asia: Job applications will cover the skills needed to successfully apply for a job in Asia and is divided into two parts. Part A of the course covers areas including writing, formatting and customising effective CVs and job application letters, while Part B analyses interacting professionally and persuasively in a job interview. The importance of an applicant's online presence when applying for jobs is also emphasized in this course.

The teaching input of English@Work in Asia: Job applications will be based around a series of short videos and texts. Participants will be assessed using a range of automated assessment tools, while participation in discussions and wikis, and peer assessment of participants' work will also count towards the final grade. Training will be provided to all participants before peer assessments, and a sample of work will also be graded by the course leaders to ensure grading reliability.

The target audience are graduates and young professionals looking for jobs in Asia which require English language skills. Both native and non-native speakers of English will benefit from taking the course.

Find out more about English@Work in Asia: Job applications by visiting these sites:



<https://www.facebook.com/ELC.MOOC>



https://instagram.com/english_at_work_in_asia/



https://twitter.com/elc_mooc



Highlights

New TPg programmes

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*Be global
Speak local*

雙語傳意 企業中華

MA in Bilingual Corporate Communication

中英企業傳訊文學碩士學位課程

課程特色:

- 獨特課程設計為學生提供專業知識培訓，並提升學生中英雙文及多文化溝通能力
- 學生有機會獲派到國際企業實習或出國深造企業傳訊專業
- 課程讓學生有機會與專業人士及企業傳訊學者交流學習，以加強其就業競爭力

Programme Highlights:

- Equip students with unique competitive advantage through bilingual (English and Chinese) proficiency, multi-cultural awareness and profession-specific knowledge
- Supreme internships in global corporations and overseas learning trips
- Exceptional career prospects with opportunities to interact with outstanding practitioners and scholars from world-class organisations

Enquiries 查詢:

CBS General Office 學系辦公室
Tel: (852) 2702 1422 / (852) 1422 1328
Email: cbi.enquiries@polyu.edu.hk

Programme Details 課程內容
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/mabcc/>

CBS Website 中文及雙語學系網頁
<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk>

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Opening Minds • Shaping the Future
啟發思想 • 塑造未來

Master of Arts in Bilingual Corporate Communication

MABCC is a unique language-cum-corporate communication master's programme anchored upon academic and professional strengths of the Bilingual Communication team of the CBS Department in teaching and researching Language Mediated Communication, Sign-Mediated Communication, bilingual & cross-cultural communication as well as China studies to equip graduates with Anglo-Chinese bilingual attributes and skills as well as corporate communication theories and practices to pursue a successful career in corporate communication in Greater China.



MAJMC

MA in Japanese Media and Communication
日語媒體與傳訊文學碩士學位課程

MAJMC

under the Master of Arts Scheme in Chinese, Linguistics and Translation
【中文、語言學與翻譯文學碩士學位課程】之一

Master of Arts in Japanese Media and Communication

MAJMC is genre-oriented, where each focus area of culture, media and communication highlights the genres that are most appropriate and critically important in that particular context. The programme establishes the link between content knowledge and advanced language ability so that students can move between theoretical models and real world outcomes in a variety of academic, professional and institutional settings. Graduates of MAJMC thus can function in those environments in light of the education and training they receive from the programme.

Highlights

The Four Books and Modern Chinese Culture



The lecture “The *Four Books* and Modern Chinese Culture” (《四書》與近世中國文化簡介) by Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities was held on 20 March 2015. The lecture was broadcasted by the Radio and Television of Hong Kong as a part of the programme “Knowledge Platform” (大學堂) in three parts in March and April 2015. The programme introduced topics on liberal studies directly from the lecture halls of Hong Kong's universities. Prof. Chu talked about the naming origin of The *Four Books* - *Great Learning*, *Doctrine of the Mean*, *Analects* and *Mencius* - and the main ideas of each book. He also explained why The *Four Books* became classics in Confucianism, and illustrated the impact of these books on Chinese political thoughts and cultural ideals as well as their significance in modern times.

Highlights

Prestigious Appointments of FH Academics

Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor of Applied Chinese Language Studies, was re-elected as President of Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities (HKAH) for the third term. Prof. Shi Dingxu, Chair Professor of Chinese Linguistics and Interim Head of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, was elected as Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities (FHKAH) on 28 April 2015 and became a new fellow of this academic body of the humanities in Hong Kong. He is among the five new fellows elected. PolyU now has four fellows (Prof. Shi Dingxu, Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Prof. Huang Chu-ren, and Prof. Winnie Cheng) among 49 FHKAHs.



Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor of Applied Chinese Language Studies, was re-elected as President of Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities (HKAH) for the third term.



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Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Chair Professor of Chinese Culture



Prof. Winnie Cheng, Associate Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Professor of Department of English

Outreaching

Ten years of support and consultancy for FCC/PLK language programmes

ELC Consultancy to the Community: Po Leung Kuk Language Programmes

Since writing our last article in the FH newsletter in 2012, we have broken through the ten-year barrier of arguably the most sustainable Outreach programme on campus.

The English Language Centre (ELC) remains steadfast on supporting language programmes with the specific aim to stem inter-generational poverty in Hong Kong by helping over 300 children in Po Leung Kuk residential care homes as well as another 550 children from needy homes in Lei Muk Shue and Tai Wai.

These projects founded by collaboration between Po Leung Kuk (PLK) and the Foreign Correspondents' Club rely heavily on corporate sponsorship from UBS, Bank of America/Merrill Lynch and the Sprouts Foundation, which now exceeds HKD 15,000,000 a year.

Our role has now expanded from the provision of consultancy services such as management, recruitment, curriculum design and evaluation, as we are now in our second year of providing comprehensive observations for the near 100 teaching staff. Many ELC staff volunteer to take part in these which ensures that we satisfy our remit: to safeguard the programmes.

So how successful are the programmes? Many students have improved at school and have added confidence but more importantly many are gaining university places and will hopefully break the poverty cycle.

Andrew Mossman, Project Leader/Coordinator

Quotes from Students 2015 – LTP (Language Training Programme) Residential Care Home

- (P.6): I love the activities organised by the LTP. I was selected to join the LTP Easter Camp and it was the best camp ever!
- (F.2): Thanks to the LTP, I can play Rugby at the Football Club and it is a really precious opportunity that I cherish very much. My English also improves because I have to communicate with other people in English at the Football Club most of the time.
- (F.1): I love the Career and Studies Exploration elective class as it helps me understand what I am really interested in.
- (F.3): LTP classes help me a lot with my studies as LTP teachers recommend English books to me and give me different ideas how I can improve my English.

Education Services Centre – (Primary) Tai Wai, Secondary Education Services Centre – Tai Wai Comments 2013-14

Students

- The classes are fun, we have a lot of freedom. It helps our English.
- In the lessons we get to speak English and Putonghua a lot. It's fun.
- I like the activities, especially the cooking, movies and trips. We learn English.
- Our teachers are kind and lessons are interesting. It helps me at school.

Parents/Carers

- My daughter is more confident to speak out. The lessons and storytelling have really helped her English. She enjoys going to class.
- My son is doing better in Putonghua at his own school because of the lessons. His English has also improved. He is getting higher grades.

- My twins love the course. They really want to go to classes because they are interesting and they learn a lot. They seem happier.

Teachers

- We have noticed a big improvement in confidence and willingness to learn in all the children. When they start they are often quite shy and have difficulty in speaking up and sharing their views. This changes, sometimes quite quickly. They enjoy the activity-based programme because it is focused on using the language through enjoyable and meaningful activities in a very low-stress environment.

- The students learn a lot of social skills here because the groups are small, very mixed and diverse and there is room for them to make mistakes and learn from them. The staff are very supportive and the kids are happy.



Lei Muk Shue - Ben and his class



Nervous girls from LTP Residential Care Home on TourAid UK Tour 2014



PLK Residential Care Home Drama show 2015 - Annie



Outreaching

Kyung Hee University Student Programme

A group of 19 students from the College of Humanities of Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea took part in this FH-based programme to broaden their knowledge on languages, culture, and the humanities through this exchange opportunity in Hong Kong and PolyU. The programme covered ten lectures delivered by teachers from the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, Department of English, and English Language Centre with a wide range of topics helping the students to understand the unique features of Chinese and English, social and cultural aspects of the languages, as well as practical use of English skills. Students also audited the subject Chinese Customs and Rituals offered by the Department of Chinese Culture. Field trips were organised to selected museums, Ngong Ping 360, Ocean Park, and Stanley so that the students could experience the dynamic culture and lifestyle of Hong Kong. Some FH students were involved in the programme. It is encouraging to see them getting along very well with the Korean students.

While the Department of English coordinated the whole programme, the success of this programme would not have been possible without the support from the relevant units of the Faculty of Humanities.



Student group photo at PolyU



The students show interest in the exhibits during the guided tour at the Innovation Tower.



The students visit Hotel ICON and learn about the operation of this world-class teaching hotel.

Outreaching

Summer Programmes of FH

CBS Summer Programme 2015

Organized by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies (CBS), the “**CBS Summer Programme 2015**” will be held on Tuesday, 30 June on the PolyU campus. The objectives of the programme are to offer the participating S4 and S5 local students a taste of university life and arouse their interest in bilingual languages through a variety of fun activities that are designed and hosted by the department’s teaching professionals.

In “**Being a Junior Interpreter**”, our guest students will have a rare opportunity to learn some basic techniques for simultaneous interpreting and then apply them with interesting topics in the department’s language laboratory. They will experience what it is like to be an interpreter and acquire interpreting skills that will be useful for life. After lunch on the campus, the students will meet with our native Korean teaching staff. They will learn to speak some basic Korean which will help them to complete the “missions” in “**PolyU Running Man**”. After the exciting game, they will join “**The Fun of Learning Japanese Language**” and learn about Japanese culture and language from our native Japanese teaching staff member in an entertaining way. She will also show the students how to put on an authentic Yukata (informal kimono) and let them try wearing it for fun at the end of the programme.

For details, please visit <http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/events/30%20Jun%202015.pdf>



ENGL Summer Programme 2015

Department of English (ENGL) is offering a special one-day summer programme entitled “**Love x Thoughts: Fascinating Aspects of English**” for about 30 S4 and S5 students on 6 July on the PolyU campus. The event is part of the PolyU Summer Programme 2015 which is a new initiative undertaken by the Secondary School Relations Section (SSRS) with the aim of promoting PolyU and its undergraduate programmes to local secondary school students.

Students joining the ENGL one-day programme will be engaged in three practical and interesting sessions learning to communicate effectively in English. During the first session “**Modern fashionable language in English**”, students will be introduced to fashionable words in English and will have a chance to create new words based on the need of the society. The second session “**Learning critical thinking through English and vice versa**” aims at guiding students to explore ways to become simultaneously a critical thinker and a competent English user. Some examples of the use of English in authentic situations in both local and overseas contexts will be analysed to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to achieve their communicative goals. In the last session “**Gendered language through love letters**”, students will read love letters by legendary personalities and will write letters to their beloved ones in gender-specific language.

For details, please visit <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/eng/news-events/other-events/311-summer-programme-2015-love-x-thoughts-fascinating-aspects-of-english>



Outreaching

SILK ROAD International Summer School



The PolyU SILK Road International Summer School 2015 will be held from 6 to 25 July 2015 in Hong Kong and Xi'an. It is an intensive summer programme for PolyU and international students to learn and experience Chinese culture. Students will have the opportunity to learn beyond the classroom through study visits to the world's famous cultural heritage sites in Xi'an.

As the key partner of the programme, the Faculty of Humanities offers five credit-bearing subjects for students to choose from, namely 'Fun with Language', 'Chinese I', 'The Good Life and Chinese Art', 'Loanwords: A Kaleidoscope of Cultures and Languages in Contact', and 'The Underground World of Early Imperial China'. The programme is offered in collaboration with Xi'an Jiaotong University (XJTU).

Building on the success of last year's inaugural event, this year the programme has attracted about 40 international students from universities around the world in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Kazakhstan, Israel, New Zealand, Singapore, Spain, and the United States. Together with about 100 PolyU students and 55 XJTU students, the programme will kick start on 6 July 2015 in Hong Kong and students will depart for Xi'an after one week.

For details, please visit <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/iao/silkroad2015/>

Research & Scholarly Activities

Conference Keynote & Plenary Speeches

JAN - JUN 2015

Prof. HuangChu-ren, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Towards A Linguistic Theory for Synaesthesia in the Chinese Language (中文「聯覺」的語言現象與分析初探). The CKIP 30th Anniversary Workshop on Chinese Lexicon. Institute of Information Science, Academia Sinica & Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. 2 April 2015.

Notes on Chinese Grammar and Ontology: The Endurant/Perdurant Dichotomy and Mandarin D-M Compounds. 2014 - 15 Chinese Language Studies, Annual Local linguist Lecture Series (2014-2015 年度 中國語言學系 香港本地語言學家講座系列). Hong Kong Institute of Education, HKSAR. 23 April 2015.

Towards a Lexical Semantic Theory of Synaesthesia in Chinese. The 16th Chinese Lexical Semantics Workshop (CLSW2015). Department of Chinese Language and Literature, and Center for Research on Chinese Folklore and Ancient Writing, Beijing Normal University. Beijing, China. 9-11 May 2015.

Ontology, Language, and Lexicon. The 2015 Conference of the Pacific Association for Computational Linguistics (PACLING) 2015. The Pacific Association for Computational Linguistics. Bali, Indonesia. 19-21 May 2015.

Research & Scholarly Activities

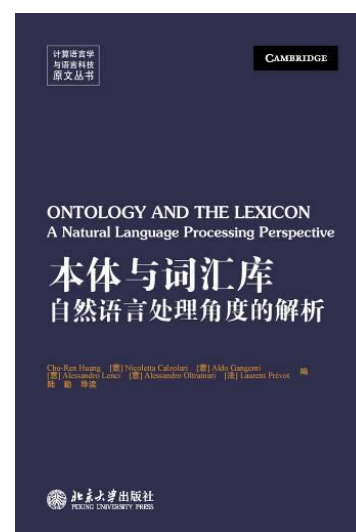
Books Published

JAN - JUN 2015

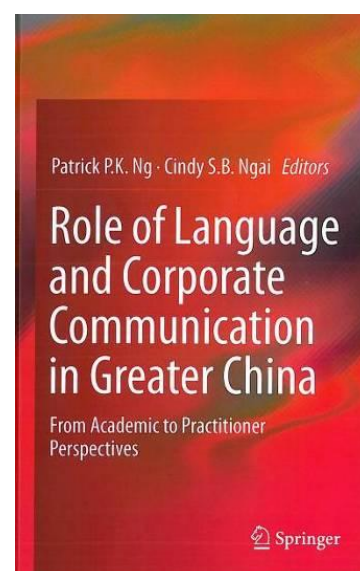
Book title:	Common Errors in Workplace English (職場英語 2 知錯能改)	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	Mable Chan	
Department:	Department of English	
Publisher:	World Publishing Co.	
Year of Publication:	2015	
ISBN:	978-988-8289-33-2	

Book title:	Communicating in Hospital Emergency Departments	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	<u>Diana Slade</u> , Marie Manidis, Jeannette McGregor, Hermine Scheeres, Eloise Chandler, Jane Stein-Parbury, Roger Dunston, Maria Herke, <u>Christian M.I.M. Matthiessen</u>	
Department:	Department of English	
Publisher:	Springer	
Year of Publication:	2015	
ISBN:	978-3-662-46020-7	

Book title:	Ontology and The Lexicon – A Natural Language Processing Perspective (本體與詞彙庫—自然語言處理角度的解析)
Author(s)/Editor(s):	<u>Huang, Chu-Ren</u> , Nicoletta Calzolari, Aldo Gangemi, Alessandro Lenci, Alessandro Oltramari, Laurent Prévot
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
Publisher:	Cambridge University Press & Peking University Press
Year of Publication:	2015
ISBN:	978-7-301-24954-3



Book title:	Role of Language and Corporate Communication in Greater China
Author(s)/Editor(s):	Stella Nga-chi Chiu, Valentina Yee Kwan Cotton-Chan, Wei Feng, Christina M. Genest, Michael B. Goodman, David Hall, Joanne M.H. Lee, <u>Dechao Li</u> , Angela Ka Ying Mak, <u>Patrick P.K. Ng</u> , <u>Cindy S.B. Ngai</u> , Augustine Pang, Dr Shiyong Peng, Dr Patricia B. Scott, Rita Gill Singh, Jo-ann Straat, <u>Dr Doreen D. Wu</u>
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
Publisher:	Springer
Year of Publication:	2015
ISBN:	978-3-662-46880-7



Research & Scholarly Activities

Grants Obtained by FH Staff

JAN - JUN 2015

External Grants

Research Grants Council (RGC) - General Research Fund (GRF)

Project Title: How Does China Present Itself in Translated/Interpreted Political Discourse? - Multi-dimensional Analyses based on the Multi-composite Corpus of China's Political Discourse (MCCPD)

Principal Investigator: Dr Wang Binhua, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD472,000

Project Title: Meaning behind the Message: The Interplay of Form, Event, and User Profile in Implicit Emotions

Principal Investigator: Dr Lee Yat Mei Sophia, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD514,500

Project Title: Bodhisattvas for Sale: Scholars, Curators, Dealers and Collectors in the Market for Medieval Chinese Buddhist Sculpture

Principal Investigator: Dr Chien Li-kuei, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD420,000

Research Grants Council (RGC) - Early Career Scheme (ECS)

Project Title: Turncoats: Political Conversion and Anti-Communism in Nationalist China, 1927-1949

Principal Investigator: Dr Tsui Kai Hin Brian, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD338,700

Project Title: Forging a New Political Order on the Edge of the Empire: Legitimacy, Ethnicity, and the Northwestern Borderlands in Early Medieval China

Principal Investigator: Dr Tse Wai Kit Wicky, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD397,000

Project Title: Metaphor in Hong Kong psychotherapy talk – description, comparison, and application

Principal Investigator: Dr Tay Dennis Zhiming, ENGL
Funding Awarded: HKD371,000

Research & Scholarly Activities

Research Interests of New Academic Staff Members



Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Dr Si Chen, Research Assistant Professor

Dr Si Chen's research interests lie in Phonetics, Phonology and statistical modeling. Her recent research focuses on finding effective statistical models in testing the tone sandhi phenomenon, which can represent the perception of native speakers mostly, and also proposes phonological tonal categories based on statistical modeling of phonetic data. Effective models are also used to compare native and non-native speakers' production in tone sandhi. Her current projects also involve using simulated data from estimated population distribution in testing tonal normalization ability in Cantonese speakers and training in non-native speakers. Dr Si Chen is presenting her paper "Phonological representations of underlying tonal targets based on statistical modeling in tonal languages" at the International Conference on Prosodic Studies: Challenges and Prospects in June 2015. Her paper "Tone realisation in younger vs. older speakers of Nanjing Dialect" is published in Zhuo, Jing-Schmidt (ed.) *Increased Empiricism: Recent Advances in Chinese Linguistics*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.



Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Dr Caicai Zhang, Assistant Professor

Dr Caicai Zhang's research work centres on the neural mechanisms of speech production and perception, with a focus on the Chinese language and lexical tone. She has used behavioural and neuroimaging methods such as EEG and fMRI to investigate the cognitive processes underlying speech production and perception, and the critical neural activities sub-serving those cognitive processes. She has been doing three lines of research: (1) speaker variability in speech signals and the neural mechanisms of how listeners manage to perceptually accommodate speaker variability; (2) the neural mechanisms (phonological computation vs. lexical access) of the online encoding of tone sandhi in Mandarin in speech production; and (3) the relationship of language and music, from the perspective of how congenital amusia (an inborn music disability) affects language performance in terms of tone production and tone perception.

She has published 11 research articles in high-impact journals, including *NeuroImage*; *Brain and Language*; *Journal of Neurolinguistics*; *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*; *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*; and *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*. She has also authored three book chapters, and the most recent one is on tone perception in *Oxford Handbook of Chinese Linguistics*.

For details of new appointees, please visit http://www.polyu.edu.hk/cpa/new_appointees/

Research & Scholarly Activities

Inaugural articles of *Lingua Sinica*

The first articles of *Lingua Sinica**, the first Open Access international journal dedicated to languages and linguistics of China, were published. The five inaugural articles cover a range of key areas of research in Chinese linguistics taking empirical approaches with interdisciplinary perspectives:

- Prof. Chu-Ren Huang, in a tribute to the 60th anniversary of Y.R. Chao's seminal paper, 'Notes on Chinese Grammar and Logic', introduces the ontological concept of *endurant/perdurant* to account for the grammatical category system of classifier in Chinese.
- Jingxia Lin proposes a Motion Morpheme Hierarchy for Mandarin Chinese verb compounds that predicts the order of verbal morphemes in motion constructions as found in natural Chinese corpora.
- Sze Wing Tang examines utterance particles in Mandarin and Cantonese, and tag statements in English, to argue for a generalized syntactic schema in which sentence final expressions are not heads.
- Zhiguo Xie looks at the epistemic and metaphysical readings of non-root modals in English (e.g., John might have won...) to elucidate the phenomena of backshifting in temporal perspective as found with Mandarin aspectual adverbs like 仍 *reng* and 還 *hai*.
- Finally, Henry Y. Chang analyses the Austronesian 'focus/voice' system according to the Minimalist Program's phase theory to address the extraction of internal arguments of Tsou applicatives.

For details of *Lingua Sinica*, please visit the journal website: <http://www.springer.com/40655>.

** Prof. Shi Dingxu, Interim Head of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, and Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, are two of the three Editors-in-Chief of the journal. The journal is published by Springer and sponsored by The HK PolyU–PekingU Research Centre on Chinese Linguistics.*

1. Fast turnaround time: First decision typically within 60 days of submission
2. Google Scholar indexed within 5 days of publication. Included by Linguistics Abstracts Online. Application for other indexing/abstracts in process
3. 35.7% acceptance rate among the first 14 submissions
4. Websites:

Articles: <http://link.springer.com/journal/40655>

Website for submission: <https://www.editorialmanager.com/lisi/>

Journal information: <http://www.springer.com/40655>

Research & Scholarly Activities

New Corpus - Corpus of Translational English

The joint ESRC (UK) – RGC (Hong Kong) research project, “Comparable and Parallel Corpus Approaches to the Third Code: English and Chinese Perspectives” (ES/K010107/1), has supported the construction of a new corpus, the Corpus of Translational English (COTE), which is a one-million-word balanced comparable corpus of translated English texts, designed as a translational counterpart of the Freiburg–LOB Corpus of British English (F-LOB). The project is led by Dr Richard Xiao and Dr Andrew Hardie at The ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (CASS) in collaboration with Dr Li Dechao and Prof. Huang Chu-ren at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Research & Scholarly Activities

Hong Kong PhD Fellowship

Established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong in 2009, the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong's institutions.

Two Fellowships have been awarded to FH in HKPFS 2015/16, which represents 20% of PolyU awardees in the Humanities and Social Sciences panel.

Application for HKPFS 2016/17 will begin on 1 September 2015.

For details of FH's PhD programmes, please visit: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/>, <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/rowas/> or <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/PhD/Leaflet.pdf>

For details about the application procedures, please visit: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/ro/hkphd-fellowship>

Research & Scholarly Activities

Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Research Symposium 2015

Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Research Symposium 2015 was organised by the Department of English on 24 April 2015. The symposium aimed to provide a platform for RPg students to share ideas and to receive feedback on their research from students and scholars from different disciplines across the Faculty. It also provided them with an opportunity to enhance their research and presentation skills. These exchanges would certainly be beneficial to students' academic careers in the future.

The opening of the symposium was officiated by Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities. It was a half-day event in the form of a research conference. Each participating student was invited to deliver a 20-minute presentation, followed by a five-minute Q&A session. A total of 12 research students from Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, Department of Chinese Culture, Department of English and the Doctor of Applied Language Sciences programme presented at the symposium, and about 30 other participants including staff and students participated in the event.

It is hoped that the symposium would help students refine their current research work and stimulate innovative ideas and insights and that the symposium provided the students with an opportunity to enhance their presentation skills and to gain experience of participating in conferences.

Research & Scholarly Activities


HKAH First Book Prize - Outstanding Finalist

Dr Dennis Zhiming Tay, Assistant Professor (Department of English), is awarded the prize of Outstanding Finalist in the 2013-2014 Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities' First Book Prize. In addition to Dr Tay, Dr Mable Chan, Research Assistant Professor (Department of English), is also among the five finalists for the prize.

Dr Tay's book, entitled *Metaphor in psychotherapy. A descriptive and prescriptive analysis* is published by John Benjamins in the Metaphor in Language, Cognition, and Communication series in 2013. The prize reviewing committee finds that he writes with admirable clarity, economy, and precision, and that he argues cogently and convincingly for the function of metaphors in the change of mental perspective or behaviour. Overall the work produces compelling evidence that metaphor research has application to the metaphoric ideation and development figuring in the 'talking cure' of psychotherapy.

Research & Scholarly Activities

International Conference on English Across the Curriculum 2015



**International Conference on the
DEVELOPMENT OF
ENGLISH ACROSS
THE CURRICULUM**

December 14-15, 2015

Plenary speakers:
Professor Terry Myers Zawacki (George Mason University),
Professor Rainer Glaser (University of Missouri) and
Dr Ursula Wingate (King's College London)

An inter-institutional conference organised by
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, City University of Hong Kong,
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Venue: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Papers for presentation: 20 minutes with 10 minutes Q&A | Colloquia: 45 minutes with 15 minutes Q&A

Abstract deadline: June 30, 2015 | Early bird registration deadline: September 30, 2015

Registration fee: HK\$1,000 (earlybird) / HK\$1,200 (regular)

Excursion: Sunset cruise on Victoria Harbour (at an extra HK\$450 per person)

<http://eaconference.elc.polyu.edu.hk>

The International Conference on English Across the Curriculum will be held from 14 to 15 December 2015 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. This two-day conference aims to bring together academics from different disciplines and language teaching units to explore ways of enhancing students' English in discipline content subjects.

The conference is organised by the UGC-funded English Across the Curriculum Inter-University Project Team, which is led by colleagues in the English Language Centre of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and comprises staff from City University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology. Keynote speakers include Professor Terry Myers Zawacki from George Mason University, USA, Dr Ursula Wingate from King's College London, UK, and Professor Rainer Glaser from University of Missouri, USA.

Early bird registration: by 30 September 2015

For details, please visit <http://eaconference.elc.polyu.edu.hk/>

Enquiry

Dr Julia Chen, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, julia.chen@polyu.edu.hk
Email: eac2015@polyu.edu.hk

Research & Scholarly Activities

Best Theoretical Paper Award from CCI

Dr Cindy Ngai, Research Assistant Professor of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, received the Best Theoretical Paper Award from the Corporate Communication International's Conference on Corporate Communication 2015 for her paper "Developing a Thematic Categorization System for Corporate Leaders' Web-based Communication in Greater China".

The Conference was held from 2 to 5 June 2015 at Baruch College/CUNY in New York. With a global focus on the theory, practice, roles, processes, and issues of concern for corporate communication scholars and practitioners, it annually gathers speakers from industry and universities to exchange ideas on issues facing the corporate communication profession.



Dr Cindy Ngai receives her Best Theoretical Paper Award from Prof. Michael Goodman, Professor and Director, CCI – Corporate Communication International at Baruch College, City University of New York (1st from the left); Ms Christina Genest, Associate Director of Corporate Communication International (2nd from the left) and Dr Wim Elving, Editor of Corporate Communications: An International Journal and Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR) at the University of Amsterdam (1st from the right).

Events

The 5th PolySystemic Language & Education Symposium & Workshops

Dates of the event: 2-3 February 2015

Organised by: Department of English

Organised by the Department of English of PolyU, and co-sponsored by the Research Grant Council of Hong Kong, the 5th PolySystemic Language & Education Symposium & Workshops highlights the theme of "multiliteracies and multimodality in language and education" to cope with the increasing use of multimedia in English Language Teaching. Invited plenary speakers include Prof. Len Unsworth and Dr Kay O'Halloran, who are internationally renowned experts in this area. Speakers from the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong shared their research on various topics and issues in language education. They included Prof. Chang Chenguang (Sun Yat-Sen University), Dr Gail Forey (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Dr William Feng (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Prof. Ken Hyland (The University of Hong Kong), Ms Bette Li (Education Consultant), Prof. Angel Lin (The University of Hong Kong), Prof. Christian Matthiessen (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), and Dr Corinne Maxwell-Reid (The Chinese University of Hong Kong).



Participants at the 5th Polysystemic Language and Education Symposium



Dr Kay O'HALLORAN from Curtin University, Australia gives a plenary speech

Events

University Education Series

University Education Series #6

An Unconventional View of General Education by Dr Eddy Lee

Date of the event: 3 February 2015

Organised by: General Education Centre

The GEC's University Education aims to bring together individuals to the campus to discuss issues and challenges facing university education from different perspectives. Two talks were held in the first half of 2015, namely "An Unconventional View of General Education" and "The Way of University". In the first talk, Dr Eddy Lee, who was the former head of the Centre for International Degree Programme at HKU SPACE and science writer of over 30 books, traced the development of general education from the recent education reform in Hong Kong. Dr Lee proposed a holistic approach to knowledge, claiming that knowledge is one, and shared his concerns on how general education would be affected due to the change in education system.

大學教育系列 #6

獨排眾議的

通識

通識教育觀

日期: 2015年2月3日 (星期二)
時間: 下午 4:00 - 5:30
地點: AG710
廣東話

李偉才博士

畢業於香港大學物理系
· 獲贈新南威爾斯大學科學社會學學士
· 1985年榮獲十大傑出青年

退休前擔任:
· 香港大學畢業生學業及國際學位課程中心總監
· 上海「滬大」項目副總裁兼教育學院副院長
· 香港大學附屬學院助理院長
· 香港太空館助理館長

退熱自由撰稿人，迄今發表著作逾三十本，包括：
· 《三分鐘字源》
· 《歷史的現場》
· 《植物紀實》
· 《動物紀實》
· 《昆蟲紀實》
· 《昆蟲的科學》
· 最新發表的《國家的運動》被《亞洲周刊》
· 選為2014年「十本好書」之一

網上報名: www.polyu.edu.hk/~gec/registration/ 查詢: 2766 4826
講座完畢後設有茶點招待

主辦:  THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY 香港理工大學  GENERAL EDUCATION CENTRE 通識教育中心



(From left: Dr Yu Kam Por, Director of GEC; Dr Eddy Lee, Speaker of the University Education Series)

University Education Series #7

The Way of University: Aims and Crisis by Dr Helena Wong

Date of the event: 14 April 2015

Organised by: General Education Centre

In the second talk, Dr Helena Wong, Lecturer of the General Education Centre, organized a Forum on The Way of University: Aims and Crises. She invited four speakers to meet at the Logo Square of the University to discuss the purposes of university education and recent crises under the funding policy of the UGC (University Grants Committee). The four speakers include Dr Fung Wai Wah, Chairman of the Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union, Law Kwun Chung, Secretary of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, Dr Chu Wai Chi, Chairman of the PUSA (PolyU Staff Association), and Mr To Yiu Ming from the Hong Kong Baptist University Staff Association. The speakers focused on topics ranging from the impact of the top slicing policy and the RAE exercise of the UGC, nominations of members for the University Council in different universities and staff evaluation criteria of universities.



通識論壇： 「大學之道：目的與危機」

日期：2015-4-14 (星期二)
時間：12:30-2:30pm
地點：理工大學陳瑞球林滿珍伉儷廣場(Logo Square)
廣東話

主持：
黃碧雲(理大通識教育中心講師)

講者：
朱偉志(理大教職員協會主席)
馮偉華(教協會會長)
杜耀明(浸大教職員工會發言人)
羅冠聰(學聯秘書長)



查詢：2766 4826



(From left: Mr To Yiu Ming, Assistant Professor of Department of Journalism of HKBU; Law Kwun Chung, Secretary of the Hong Kong Federation of Students; Dr Helena Wong, Lecturer of GEC; Dr Yu Kam Por, Director of GEC; Dr Fung Wai Wah, Chairman of the Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union; Dr Chu Wai Chi, Chairman of the PolyU Staff Association)

Events

Experience Argentine Tango & Culture

Dates of the event: 11-12 February 2015

Organised by: Department of English

Asian Tango Championship 2011 winners Raymond and Lily gave an introduction and trial workshops on Argentine Tango during this two-day event organised by the Minor in European Studies of the Department of English. The introduction covered the history of Argentine Tango, the difference between Argentine Tango and the well-known Ballroom Tango, and the music of Argentine Tango. Raymond and Lily also performed five dances to the audience, covering three kinds of Argentine Tango music: Tango, Vals and Milonga. Those who joined the trial Tango workshops have also experienced the passion of this dance.



Raymond and Lily (right) performed with two PolyU staff club members who are also experienced dancers.



The beautiful steps and gestures of Raymond and Lily received lots of applause from the audience.

Events

Local Culture Talk Series

#1 Talk by Prof. Anthony Fung Korean Pop Culture and Local Cultural Study

Date of the event: 12 March 2015

Organised by: General Education Centre

GEC presented two talks under its Local Culture Talk Series. In the talk entitled “Korean Pop Culture and Local Cultural Study”, Prof. Anthony Fung, Director of the School of Journalism and Communication, CUHK, shared with PolyU students and staff his first-hand research on Korean pop culture. After some brief introduction of his recently edited book *Asian Popular Culture: The Global (Dis)continuity*, Prof. Fung began to define pop culture and explain the methodology of cultural studies. For Prof. Fung, music, dance, food and drama could all be interpreted as a cultural text where capitalist ideology and power could function. The audiences were captivated by his half academic, half personal approach. Many stayed behind and continued the discussion with Prof. Fung for another hour after the talk.



(From left: Dr Paris Lau, Lecturer of GEC; Prof. Anthony Fung, Director of School of Journalism and Communication of CUHK; Dr Yu Kam Por, Director of GEC)

#2 Talk by Prof. Lui Chun Kwong Fotanian Artist Studios and Local Culture: Dialogue with Lui Chun Kwong

Date of the event: 26 March 2015

Organised by: General Education Centre

The second talk “Fotanian Artist Studios and Local Culture: Dialogue with Lui Chun Kwong” was held on 26 March 2015. As a former painting Professor at CUHK, Hong Kong artist Lui Chun Kwong shared with the audience his experience of setting up a studio in Fotan industrial district back in July 2001 and opening it to the public in October 2001. He also described the active role the annual Fotanian Open Studios played in Hong Kong local culture and the ways they had facilitated the development of local art in the last 15 years.



Prof. Lui Chun Kwong (Right) gave a talk titled “Fotanian Artist Studios and Local Culture: Dialogue with Lui Chun Kwong” on 26 March 2015 for the Local Culture Talk Series organised by GEC.



(From left: Dr Yu Kam Por, Director of GEC; Prof. Lui Chun Kwong, Speaker of the Local Culture Talk Series #2)

Events

“Fighting Women” & “Men of War” Conferences

Dates of the event: 13-14 May 2015 and 15 May 2015

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

CC hosted an international conference “Fighting Women: Heroines in Post-War Hong Kong Popular Culture” on 13-14 May 2015, and co-hosted (with the Netherland Institute of War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies and the School of International Studies of Kwansai Gakuin University of Japan) another conference “Men of War: Masculinity and War in the 20th Century” on 15 May 2015. The events brought together scholars from Japan, Singapore, the Netherlands, the US as well as Hong Kong to a forum of lively exchange of ideas. Together, they examined the intersection between gender and aggressiveness from different perspectives.



Events

The 3rd Writing Roundtable of ELC

Eyes on writing – Discovering creativity across the curriculum

Date of the event: 15 May 2015

Organised by: English Language Centre

The third annual English Language Centre Writing Roundtable: Eyes on Writing - Discovering Creativity across the Curriculum was held on 15 May 2015. It brought together English language teachers from various institutions as well as writers and professionals from an array of genres and backgrounds to explore the creative and academic aspects of writing. They shared how writing creatively could be supported across a range of academic disciplines and in different genres.

Invited speakers shared their expertise from the professional worlds of language and literature teaching, publishing, journalism, and fictional writing. Participants welcomed the roundtable format which allowed for thought provoking discussion in a less restricted way than in a 'traditional' conference setting. The Writing Roundtable aims to assemble the creative minds and souls for an exploration of creative and academic aspects of writing across the curriculum.



Mr Nury Vittachi (Standing), one of the invited speakers for the roundtable.



Ms Sarah Brennan, one of the invited speakers for the roundtable.



Mr Justin Hill, one of the keynote speakers for the roundtable.



Participants at the parallel sessions of the roundtable.

Events

Statecraft Articulations in Late Imperial China – An International Conference on Qiu Jun's *Daxue yanyi bu*

Dates of the event: 16-18 June 2015

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture and Confucius Institute of Hong Kong

Co-organized with the University of British Columbia, University of Washington, and Collège de France, the PolyU Department of Chinese Culture and the Confucius Institute of Hong Kong jointly hosted the Statecraft Articulations in Late Imperial China—An International Conference on Qiu Jun's *Daxue yanyi bu*, on 16-18 June 2015. The conference is in fact a grand finale of a series of workshops, which had been held in the last four years in Vancouver, Paris, Seattle, and Toronto, on the reading and discussion of Qiu Jun (丘濬 1421-95) and his *magnum opus* on statecraft *Daxue yanyi bu* (大學衍義補, Extended meaning of the *Great Learning*), and its influence on various aspects of imperial Chinese administration between the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries. Besides local scholars, participants of the conference came from Canada, China, France, Korea, and Taiwan.

Presenters

Jerome Bourgon (Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique)

Timothy Brook (The University of British Columbia)

Desmond Cheung (Portland State University)

Chiu Peng-sheng (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Chu Hung-lam (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Dai Lianbin (University of Alberta)

Maura Dykstra (Harvard University)

Fang Jun (Huron University College)

Kent Guy (University of Washington)

Kim Youngmin (Seoul National University)

Leo Shin (The University of British Columbia)

Tam Ka-chai (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Tse Wai-Kit Wicky (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Malcolm Thompson (The University of British Columbia)

Pierre-Etienne Will (Collège de France)

Xie Yang (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)



Conference participants at the opening ceremony.

Events

The 9th International Conference of AsiaLex

Dates of the event: 25 - 27 June 2015

Organised by: Department of English

The 9th International Conference of Asian Association of Lexicography (ASIALEX 2015) was held from 25 – 27 June 2015 at PolyU. The conference aims to provide a platform for lexicography and language professionals from Asia and worldwide to share information, knowledge and experience in reference science. Under the theme of **Words, Dictionaries and Corpora: Innovation in reference science**, papers related to the following areas were presented at the conference:

- dictionary and ELT;
- dictionary compilation in the digital era;
- the role of corpus in reference science;
- dictionary, corpus and Asian languages;
- multimedia and multifunction of dictionary;
- dictionary and culture; and
- terminology, phraseology and neologisms

For details about the conference, please visit <http://asialex2015.engl.polyu.edu.hk>



Events

The 3rd International Symposium on Healthcare Communication

Date of the event: 29 June 2015

Organised by: Department of English

International Research Centre for Communication in Healthcare (IRCCH) organised the 3rd International Symposium on Healthcare Communication in collaboration with The Charter for Compassion International (CCI) on 29 June 2015. The Symposium was entitled Communicating for Compassionate Healthcare: Mobilizing Values to Practice and the speakers included Dr Elizabeth A. Rider from Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, USA; Prof. Christina M. Puchalski from George Washington University, USA; Dr May OoLwin from Nanyang Technology University, Singapore; Dr Ho Lap-yin from Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong; Dr E. Angela Chan from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong; Dr Dorothy Jones from Curtin University, Australia; Prof. Suzanne Kurtz from University of Calgary (Professor Emerita), Canada; Ms Marilyn Turkovich from Charter for Compassion International (CCI), USA; Dr Suzanne Eggins from University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Prof. Diana Slade from University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Dr Roger Dunston from University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Dr Daniel E. Martin from Charter for Compassion International, USA.

The Symposium brought together leading local and international practitioners, educators, academics, and leaders to share and discuss innovative practices, educational strategies, and cutting edge research that effectively promote compassionate healthcare, and to promote attention to core values and skilled communication in different healthcare settings around the world.

In addition, the formal launch of IRCCH as the Asia-Pacific Healthcare Hub of Charter for Compassion was held during the Symposium. The Charter for Compassion represents a major worldwide organisation working with over 1,100 partners to promote principles of compassion through practical action in a variety of sectors including healthcare, education, science/technology and research, environment, business and others.

For details about the symposium, please visit https://www.polyu.edu.hk/eng/event/3rd_IRCCH_symposium/



Events

CIHK Lecture Series

CIHK Specialist Lectures on Chinese History and Culture

Dates of the event: 30 January 2015, 13 February 2015, 5 March 2015, 24 March 2015, 27 March 2015, 10 April 2015, 5 May 2015

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

CIHK Research Centre for Chinese History and Culture hosted seven lectures under its Specialist Lectures on Chinese History and Culture in the first half of 2015. Speakers included Prof. Lee Kam Keung and Dr Tam Ka Chai of Hong Kong Baptist University, Prof. Si Chung Mou of Hong Kong Institute of Education, Prof. Richard Davis of Lingnan University, Dr Dewei Zhang of Macau University, and Dr Li Meng and Dr Kenneth Yung of PolyU's Department of Chinese Culture, and topics of the lectures ranged from history and religion to modern literature and language. Jointly organised by CIHK and the Department of Chinese Culture, this lecture series is open to the public and has been well-received especially among postgraduate students and researchers.



Prof. Richard Davis speaking on "The Life and Times of Mingzong of Later Tang (r. 926-33)"



Prof. Si Chung Mou speaking on "A Comparison between the Phonetic Structure of Cantonese and Putonghua"



Q & A session of Prof. Si Chung Mou's lecture on 5 May 2015

Distinguished Lectures on Chinese Culture and Religion

Date of the event: 24 April 2015

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

CIHK Distinguished Lecture Series 2015 held the first lecture this year on 24 April featuring eminent scholar Prof. Wang Chiu-kuei, Prof. Emeritus of the Institute of Anthropology at National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan, who spoke on "Popular Literature Preserved in Death Rituals". The lecture attracted nearly a hundred participants and saw lively exchanges between the speaker and the audience at the Q & A session. Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen, six distinguished lectures are co-organised annually by CIHK and the Department of Chinese Culture under this series to deepen the general public's understanding of Chinese culture, philosophy, values and religion as well as the relevance and benefit of Chinese culture to personal development. Five distinguished lectures to be delivered by scholars from China, Taiwan and the USA have been scheduled for the second half of the year.



Prof. Wang Chiu-kuei speaking at the Distinguished Lecture on Chinese Culture and Religion



Prof. Wang Chiu-kuei (third from right) with Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Director of CIHK (fourth from left), and colleagues from the Department of Chinese Culture.

Seminars on Chinese History and Culture for Postgraduate Students in Hong Kong, Macau and the Pearl River Delta

Dates of the event: 25 April 2015 and 6 June 2015

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

Designed for young scholars from universities in Hong Kong and the region, the seminar series aims to enhance the interest and research ability of postgraduate students in Chinese history and culture as well as to create a network for their academic exchanges. Four sessions of seminars were held on 25 April and 6 June 2015, led by renowned scholars Prof. Wang Chiu-kuei, Prof. Emeritus of the Institute of Anthropology at National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan, and Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Chair Professor of Chinese Culture, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Director of CIHK at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Thirty-five students from nine institutions in Hong Kong, Macau, and Guangzhou participated in the seminars.



Prof. Wang Chiu-kuei, Prof. Chu Hung-lam and participants of the seminars on 25 April 2015.

Faculty Updates

22nd Faculty of Humanities Students' Association

The 22nd Faculty of Humanities Students' Association (FHSA) was formed through election in February 2015. The membership of the association is as follows:

President, Brian Ng Tsz Chun, BDLCC

Internal Vice-President, Miu Hung Miu Wan, BDLCC

Financial Secretary, Derek Chow Wai Hung, BAESP

General Secretary, Yamoi Yam Oi Ying, BDLCC

Promotion Secretary, Gigi Shum Gee Lok, BDLCC

School Affair Secretary, Vince Luk Wing Sze, BDLCC

Welfare Secretary, Charlene Man Yun Hui, BDLCC

The 22nd FHSA website: <https://www.facebook.com/fhsa22macchiato>



Faculty Updates

Appointment of the Interim Dean of the Faculty of Humanities

Prof. Chu Hung-lam was appointed as Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities on 1 February 2015. Prof. Chu is Cally Kwong Mei Wan Professor in Culture and Art, Chair Professor of Chinese Culture, Chang Jiang Scholars Chair Professor of Ancient Chinese History and Director of Confucius Institute of Hong Kong.



Faculty Updates

The President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement 2013/2014

The President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement 2013/2014 was held on 25 March 2015. The following Faculty members received the President's/ Faculty Awards 2013/14 in different categories:

President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement in Teaching (Individual):

Dr Gail Forey, Associate Professor (Department of English)

Faculty/School Awards for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Teaching (Individual):

Miss Angela Tse, Instructor (Department of English)

Faculty/School Awards for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Research & Scholarly Activities (Individual):

Prof. Christian M.I.M. Matthiessen, Chair Professor (Department of English)

Faculty/School Awards for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Services (Team):

Staff members from English Language Centre:

- Ms Shari Lughmani, Senior Lecturer
- Dr Svetlana Chigaeva, Teaching Fellow
- Miss Bee DY, Instructor
- Mr Jim Lo, Instructor
- Mr Andrew Northern, Instructor
- Ms Michelle R. Raquel, Instructor
- Ms Au Yeung Yuen Yee, Project Associate



Dr Gail Forey (left) receiving the award from Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President of PolyU (right).



English Language Centre's team and Ms Angela Tse were presented the Faculty/School Awards for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Services (Team) and in Teaching (Individual) respectively.

*Front row (from right): Ms Michelle R. Raquel, Dr Svetlana Chigaeva, Ms Shari Lughmani, Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Interim Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Ms Angela Tse (ENGL), Prof. Philip Chan, Deputy President and Provost of PolyU
Back row (from left): Mr Jim Lo, Ms Au Yeung Yuen Yee, Miss Bilands DY, Mr Andrew Northern*

Student Corner

Awards received by FH Students

Outstanding Student Awards 2014

Wang Yingcan (Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies) The Outstanding Student, Faculty of Humanities, 2014

I am extremely honoured to be awarded the Outstanding Student of Faculty of Humanities. My four-year study life at PolyU has been truly meaningful and rewarding. It has made me a mature and all-round person. I am so grateful to my professors who have guided me, and my friends who have accompanied me throughout this time.

I would like to describe myself as a language lover. With a major in Chinese and Bilingual Studies, I enjoy learning new languages and exploring the “secret rules” that sustain and enrich them. This is why I feel so lucky to have studied linguistics and translation extensively at university.

Apart from studies, what I appreciate most is that PolyU has provided me with many opportunities to take part in activities such as cultural and academic exchange in Germany and USA, community services, and a variety of student societies and internships. These experiences greatly enhanced my intercultural awareness and communication skills, while at the same time equipping me with a global vision. Now, I am able to think critically and act proactively and I am ready to take on more responsibilities as a member of the society.

After graduation, I would like to continue my studies in the field of linguistics. It is my wish that, someday, my research in this field will benefit people in need and contribute to the development of society.



Wang Bingran (Department of English) The Outstanding Student of Department of English, 2014

I joined Department of English, Faculty of Humanities in 2008. During the four years of study, PolyU has provided me with abundant opportunities and support for my all-round development.

I have learnt valuable knowledge in class and important research skills by being a Research Assistant in my department, which inspired me to conduct my own Final Year Research Project, and laid solid foundation for applying for a post-graduate degree.

I also participated in a WIE programme, working as a teaching assistant in a public school in Australia. During the one month in Lismore, I lived with a very nice host family and experienced the genuine local lifestyle and culture.

Thanks to PolyU, I was given an opportunity to study at the University of Waterloo in Canada, which further expanded my international outlook and intercultural communicative competence.



Distinguished Young Paper Award

Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics Enrico Santus, PhD candidate (Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies)



CLiC-it ITALIAN CONFERENCE
ON COMPUTATIONAL
LINGUISTICS

Enrico Santus, PhD candidate in the
Department of Chinese and Bilingual
Studies, PolyU, was awarded the

**Distinguished
Young Paper Award**

Enrico Santus was awarded the [Distinguished Young Paper Award](#) for the paper titled "Unsupervised Antonym-Synonym Discrimination in Vector Space", written by Enrico Santus, Prof. Lu Qin, Prof. Alessandro Lenci and Prof. Huang Chu-Ren, at the Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics (CLiC-it) (<http://clic.humnet.unipi.it/en/index.html>), which took place in Pisa, Italy, 9 - 10 December 2014. As part of the award, an extended version of the paper will be published in a journal.

Sharing by Enrico:

Can a computer pass the TOEFL test? Yes, it can. Or, at least, it can pass the multiple-choice synonyms questions with a score of 92.5 %. Not bad, if you consider that the human average is only 64.5 %! Thanks to the statistical approaches to language, in fact, computers are progressing in understanding how words are related to each other. My research at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is exactly about teaching computers to learn automatically these relations. The awarded paper, in particular, was about teaching computers how to automatically distinguish synonyms from opposites. Given their impressive performances, will computers ever teach us to distinguish the good and the bad?

Student Corner

English Drama Club Annual Performance

English Drama Club (EDC) is one of the major extra-curricular activity clubs and societies under the auspices of the English Language Centre (ELC). With the mission of "Learning English through drama", EDC gathers local and international students to participate in a wide range of university-wide activities and workshops every year to enhance cultural integration.

This year, EDC successfully staged an adapted version of the famous Irish playwright Oliver Goldsmith's masterpiece "She Stoops to Conquer", a classic comedy as its 2015 Annual Performance, highlight of the club's activity, in Chiang Chen Studio Theatre from 4-6 March 2015. With around over 600 PolyU staff and students attracted to the performances, the Annual Performance was once again another success story.

The annual show was in fact the result of collaborative efforts and hard work of a great many of us, including the EDC student committee and the entire subcommittees. It took us an entire year, from choosing the play, adapting and modifying it, recruiting the cast, rehearsing to staging the final performance. All teams (including the backstage teams who have sweated behind the scene) have strived to give all aspects of the production (from costumes, light and sound, music, to props) their best.

We are all determined to excel and every one of us is proud of being part of the EDC family!

By Rachel Lin, President of English Drama Club



Student Corner

PolyU won HK Inter-Collegiate Debate Championship

PolyU's Debate Team (Cantonese) won the final debate of the Hong Kong Inter-Collegiate Debate Championship 2015 (大專辯論賽) organised by the RTHK on 2 May 2015. The motion for the debate was “香港本土意識提升有利社會發展”. PolyU was on the negative side and the debate was won with a convincing 4 votes to 1.

Tam Kit Ying, captain of the PolyU team 2014-15 and second speaker in the final debate, won the Best Speaker Award. Other members of the PolyU team who participated in the final were Yu Tsz Ki, Chan Wing Hung and Luk Chun Fai.

The Debate Team would like to thank all its other members Fung Toi Sze, Chan Wing Hung Gloria, Cheng Ka Yiu Kathy and Chou Xian Hong for the great support they provided. In addition, the team would also like to express its gratitude to its coaches from the GEC for their guidance throughout the competition as well as to the alumni who are former members of the PolyU Debate Team, and who came back to coach and advise their younger brothers and sisters.



All members of the PolyU Debate Team, with Dr Yu Kam Por (6th from right), Advisor of the Debate Team.

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