

The Department of English Newsletter

(University of Macau)

No. 6 October (2008)

Department News

A Proud Moment for Betty & DoE

The Department of English is proud to announce the success of our first PhD thesis defence in an English field of study, by candidate Chen Pei (Betty) who was supervised by Associate Professor Kim Hughes Wilhelm. The defence examination took place on 3 June 2008 and was presided over by Rector Iu.



Chen Pei, Betty with examiners, Rector and DoE Faculty after a successful defence of her doctoral dissertation

External examiners included world-renowned scholars in Applied Linguistics Professors Jun Liu, Agnes Lam, and William Littlewood and internal examiners were Professors Glenn Timmermans and Sylvia Ieong.

One of the examiners commented on the thesis as follows:

This is by far one of the most comprehensive and well-written dissertations I have read on the topic of task-based language instruction in Mainland China. The dissertation is not only well-designed, but the data collected is very thorough and the analysis and interpretation are both insightful and meaningful. While there are many studies on the same topic published or presented at national and international conferences, none has been conducted in such a systematic and careful manner. This will definitely contribute to the field of English language teaching in China, and it will help ELT teachers and researchers better understand the implication of using task

based approach in such context as Mainland China... I want to congratulate the student and the supervisor for such a wonderful and thoughtful work, and it is my pleasure to see the study so well executed and the end product so well presented.

Another examiner commented on the case study approach and how the data were reported:

Of the 4 teachers reported on, the description of various aspects of their teaching was very thorough, clearly structured and well illustrated. The candidate shows great diligence and attention to detail in the presentation of these cases. It is not common to come across such clean presentation of such a rich set of data. The candidate should be congratulated on her painstaking work and careful choice of materials and interesting examples for illustration. The reader is left with a comprehensive understanding of each teacher's circumstances.

Department of English Prize-Giving Ceremony 2007/2008

The annual prize-giving ceremony of the Department was held on 3 June 2008. The following students were recognised for outstanding academic performance and awarded book prizes:

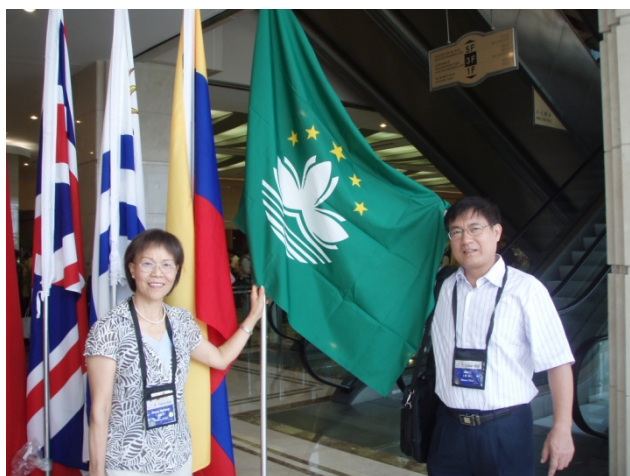
LEONGUE VITOR, Vitor	1st Prize
WONG HOU LAM, Mary	2 nd
KUAN SAO TENG, Christina	3 rd
CHAN KA I, Valerie	1st Prize
GAO DODO YUN, Dodo	2 nd
FENG XUESI, Melody	3 rd
LO CHI MAN, Mandy	1st Prize
CHEANG KAI HANG, Joseph	2 nd
HUANG SIYING, Cathy	3 rd

In addition to the above, prizes were also given out to winners of the Best English Studies Essay competition (See page 4 for details).

DoE Represented at FIT World Congress

Professor Zhang Meifang, Dr James Li, doctoral candidates Qian Hong, Pan Li and Ouyang Qianhua, attended the 18th World Congress of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) held on 4-7 August, 2008 in Shanghai, China. The theme of the congress was *Translation and Cultural Diversity*. About 1,500 translators and scholars from 76 countries and regions attended the Congress. The Congress was organized by the Translators Association of China (TAC) and co-hosted by the Shanghai Municipal Government.

Professor Zhang, also Vice President of the Macao Federation of Translators and Interpreters (FTIM), gave a presentation on FTIM's activities and its application for FIT membership. The Congress voted to accept FTIM as one of its seven new members.



Zhang Meifang & James Li at the FIT Congress

Chen Pei Bags Outstanding Scholar Award

Chen Pei, recent doctoral candidate of the Department of English, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSH), has won the "ACS outstanding Young Scholar Award" in the International Conference of Chinese Sociolinguistics held in Hong Kong. The award is given by Chinese State Educational Ministry (The National Language Planning Office) and Chinese Sociolinguistics Association (ACS).

Chen Pei's research paper entitled "Task-based language teaching of English in China's Mainland: A case study of four 'master' teachers" was selected as one of the best papers by the academic committee of Chinese Sociolinguistics Association. Her study contributes to the enrichment of the knowledge about TBA practice in the EFL context and enhances our understanding of ELT pedagogic innovation on China's mainland. It provides educational insights into issues arising during TBA implementation, information useful to educational policymakers and school administrators. It also provides pedagogical implications for Chinese EFL teachers with an aim to assist them in a more successful transition to student-centered, communicative-oriented task-based approaches to English language teaching.



The paper was based on Chen's PhD research supervised by Prof. Kim Hughes Wilhelm who has advised Chen in the field of Applied Linguistics over the past six years since her MA study at UM. Ms Chen has acknowledged Prof. Wilhelm's insightful guidance and critique that helped assure the quality of this research work.

Inside		Page
1.	Department News	1
2.	New Members of the DoE Family	5
3.	Academic Activities of DoE Faculty	5
4.	In Photos	7
5.	Students' Corner	8

DoE Stages Cultural Extravaganza

The *Introduction to Theatre* class presented four short plays in the UM Cultural Centre on the evenings of 29 and 30 May 2008. The plays included David Henry Hwang's *The Sound of a Voice*, John Synge's *Riders to the Sea*, Susan Glaspell's *Trifles*, and William Saroyan's *The Ping-Pong Players*. These May performances were preceded by laboratory performances, also in the Cultural Centre, in late December 2007. Dr Keith Appler was the instructor and director.



Photo: Woman (Wina, Tang Weng Wa) serves Man (Jason, Tam Cheng Son) in David Henry Hwang's *The Sound of a Voice*

HoD in Yad Vashem

Professor Glenn Timmermans, Head of the Department of English, attended the *6th International Conference on Holocaust Education* at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, Israel, in early July, where he presented a paper on "Teaching the *Shoah* in a Chinese University". This conference brought together Holocaust Educators from all over the world and three days were spent discussing how to promote the teaching of this difficult subject, making students aware of anti-Semitism, and developing strategies to introduce this subject to non-traditional audiences. Professor Timmermans' trip was sponsored by Yad Vashem and the Adelson Family Foundation.

Immediately afterwards Professor Timmermans participated in the *International Task Force Seminar on Holocaust Education* in Kunming, China (21st - 26th July), where, together with scholars from Yad Vashem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Wannsee House in Berlin, and the Jewish Cultural Centre in London, he took part in a week of teaching

about the *Shoah* to MA and PhD students from various universities in China.

This was also an excellent opportunity for Professor Timmemans to meet and work with scholars from Centres for Jewish Studies in Nanjing, Kaifeng, and Shanghai as well as the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing. This trip was sponsored by the International Task Force on Holocaust Education.

Shortly afterwards Professor Timmermans also participated in various Holocaust-related activities at the South African Holocaust Centre in Cape Town, and here he was privileged to work with scholars from the University of Bristol and the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Professor Timmermans is supervising a number of MA theses on Holocaust Literature and is looking forward to sharing ideas developed over the past summer with his students.

My Tryst with the Torch

(By Dr Victoria Lei)

"I am so proud of you!" a former student, now a colleague and friend of mine at the University, said to me right after the Torch Relay in Macao, the last leg of the Olympic Torch Relay outside the Chinese mainland. I immediately responded, from the bottom of my heart, "I am so proud of you, too!"



I was an Olympic torchbearer. However, I don't think I am a hero. I picked up the sacred Torch ... somewhat meekly ... I felt as if I was holding a dream shared by many. I did not really feel like being on top of the world. It was instead a sobering experience.

The journey of the Torch reminds us that in China, as in the rest of the world, there are myriads of problems that remain unresolved, that faced with the destructive forces of natural disasters mankind can be so powerless.

But I do feel immensely proud of our community at the University. Here, we have people of different nationalities who have the courage to openly welcome the Torch, assuring me that the passion and the dream is shared by so many, and that we will never stop our quest and prayer for a better world. Among them are my mentors, colleagues, friends and students.

The Torch carries my dream shared by this community and I feel proud of belonging to this community.

ELL Major Bags Chevening

Andrena Ng (graduated 2007) received the prestigious Chevening Scholarship from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British Government to study English Literature at the University of Warwick. The University of Warwick was ranked 7th overall in the 2007 UK university rankings according to the authoritative *Times Good University Guide*. The highly competitive Chevening Scholarship scheme provides opportunities for outstanding university graduates and young professionals to pursue further education in Britain.



Andrena is only the third student from Macao to receive this award. Another ELL student Demi Tong received the Chevening in 2004. Andrena began her study in the Master of Arts programme in September this year.

Grace in Europe

English-Department student Grace Wei Xiurong had an active summer of research and conference participation in Ireland, Portugal and England. Grace first attended the **2008 Synge Summer School** in Ireland, a week of scholarly activity devoted to the works of the Irish

playwright J.M. Synge. The theme this year was Irish Theatre and the World Stage and Grace was able to attend lectures and seminars led by some of the leading scholars in the field of modern Irish drama, the area of her PhD studies. Grace was awarded a full scholarship by the organisers of the Summer School and so all her costs for this week were covered by the host institution. Grace then travelled to Porto, in Portugal, where she presented a paper, "One baby equals two babies equals dead baby: Scapegoating in Jean Hanff Korelitz's *The Sabbath day River*", at the **2008 IASIL [International Association for the Study of Irish Literature] Conference** in late July. (Grace presented a paper at this conference last year as well, when it was held in Dublin in July 2007.) She then spent much of August working in the archives of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, the Druid Theatre in Galway, as well as the National Library of Ireland and the Library of Trinity College, Dublin. She also spent a week in London, working in the National Newspaper Library at Colindale and the archives of the Royal National Theatre. Grace is grateful to the Research Committee of the University of Macau for funding this conference and research trip.

Winners of the Best English Studies Essay Prizes, 2007–2008

- Best Essay, Year 1: **Wendy Li Liangying** "The Interaction of the Law of the Land and 'the Secret Courts of Men's Hearts' in *To Kill a Mockingbird*"
- *Proxime Accessit*, Year 1: **Charlotte Chen Yan**, "Comparison between the Poems of G. M. Hopkins and T. Sturge Moore"
- Best Essay, Year 2: **Mandy Lo Chi Man**, "[Love in the Poetry of John Donne]"
- *Proxime Accessit*, Year 2: **Joseph Cheang Kai Hang**, "Obeying Authority without Deep Consideration Is Dangerous"
- Best Essay, Year 3: **Costa U Wai Ip**, "Ibo Manhood's Skepticism"
- *Proxime Accessit*, Year 3: **Melody Feng Xuesi**, "Foil, the Green Leaves"
- Best Essay, Year 4: **Ivy Leong Iok In**, "Good People, Bad People—An Analysis of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*"
- *Proxime Accessit*, Year 4: **Vitor Leongue**, "Humor and the Non-observance of Gricean Conversational Maxims in Jokes"



Vice Rector, DoE Faculty & Students at the Annual Awards Ceremony

New Members of the DoE Family

Dr Damian Shaw

Damian Shaw was born in South Africa, majored in English and Latin at the University of Cape Town, and received his PhD in Romantic literature from Cambridge University in 1997. Before coming to Macao, he lectured for five years in South Africa and six years at Liming and Hua Qiao universities in Quanzhou, Fujian. His research interests have focused on colonial and anti-slavery writings of the Romantic period, and teaching interests at MA level have included literary theory, Romantic poetry, various aspects of postcolonial fiction and postmodern fiction.



Damian is a fan of poetry and cinema, and always happy to meet people who are interested in classical music, bridge and philately. He is currently working on a book of 'life writing' about the wonderful people and culture of Quanzhou.

Dr Katrine Wong

Katrine Wong was born in Hong Kong where she was educated at Diocesan Girls' School. She has a BA from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, with a major in English Literature and a minor in French. She was awarded a Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship in 2004 to pursue her PhD studies at University of Leeds, focusing on theatrical meanings of music in English Renaissance drama. In 2007 she received funding from The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust for her archival research in Stratford-upon-Avon. Katrine has taught various undergraduate modules at both Leeds and CUHK. She holds the professional title of AHEA, a teaching recognition awarded by the Higher Education Academy in the UK. Her research interests include Renaissance drama, theatre and performance, and life narrative.



Katrine is also a classically trained pianist and operatic soprano. She loves travelling and good coffee.

Academic Activities of DoE Faculty

Conferences

Prof. Zhang Meifang

Zhang Meifang, "Cultural Access to Macau: On Translations for Macau World Heritage", presented at the *XVIII World Congress of the International Federation of Translators (FIT)*, Shanghai, 4-7 August, 2008, to be published in the Congress Proceedings.

Zhang Meifang, "Social Context and Translation of Public Notices", presented at the *2nd HCLS Conference on Translation, Language Contact, and Multilingual Communication*, City University of Hong Kong, 13 - 15 August, 2008.

Prof. Andrew Moody

"Language contact and language maintenance within the Philippine Community in Macao", Invited Speaker at the Linguistic Society of the Philippines Annual Meeting, University of Santo Tomas, April 2008.

"One legal system, three languages: legal education at the University of Macau", *Language Issues in English-Medium Universities: A Global Concern*, University of Hong Kong, June 2008.

"Englishization of the Japanese passive construction" (with Yuko Matsumoto), *Conference on Translation, Language Contact and Multilingual Communication*, City University of Hong Kong, August 2008.

Prof. Christopher Kelen

"Class, race and national ethos in Ella McFadyen's *Pegmen Tales*." *Other Worlds in Children's Literature: Fantasy, Reality and Imagination*, Biennial Conference of the Australasian Children's Literature Association for Research, Victoria University, Wellington, N.Z., 25-28 June.

"An Australian on the Spot: Documenting and Making Macao Poetry Today". *Australian Literature in a Global World*: 30th anniversary conference of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature. University of Wollongong, Wollongong, N.S.W., 28 June - 1 July.

“Collaborative Translation and Poetry’s Cross-Cultural Community – Works in Progress in Macao”, 2nd HCLS Conference: *Translation, Language Contact, and Multilingual Communication*. City University of Hong Kong, 13 - 15 August, 2008.

Prof. Kim Hughes Wilhelm

“The painful process of transforming obedient students to active researchers in a graduate program: Instructional and curricular change.” *International Conference on Language Issues in English-medium Universities: A Global Concern*. University of Hong Kong, 18-20 June 2008.

“Signing and Language Development of Two-Year-Old Twins: A case study conducted in Macau.” One of four papers presented in a research symposium entitled “Babies Signing Around the World: The Effects of Using Infant Sign Language as a Parent-Infant Communication Intervention in Four Countries.” *11th Conference of the World Association of Infant Mental Health (WAIMH)*. Yokohama, Japan, 1-5 August 2008. Co-presenter Lucia Lo.

Dr Li Jian, James

Li Jian, James. “The Translation Techniques Contingent on Cultural Filtering in Subtitling from English to Chinese”, *FIT 18th World Congress*, Shanghai, 4-7 August, 2008, published in conference proceedings (ISRC CN-M20-08-0027-0/V·Z).

Graduate Students

QIAN Hong, “Welcome, 歡迎光臨, Bem-vindo! – A Case Study of Tourist Brochures Translation via the Appraisal Theory”, presented at the 2nd HCLS Conference on Translation, Language Contact, and Multilingual Communication, City University of Hong Kong, 13 - 15 August, 2008.

QIAN Hong, “Are You Ready to Order-A Case Study of Chinese-English Menu Translation from the Hallidayan Approach”, *FIT 18th World Congress*, Shanghai, 4-7 August, 2008, published in conference proceedings (ISRC CN-M20-08-0027-0/V·Z).

PAN Li, “A Study of Attitudes Reflected in Bilingual Versions of Thesis Abstracts”, presented at the 2nd HCLS Conference on Translation, Language Contact, and Multilingual Communication, City University of Hong Kong, 13 - 15 August, 2008.

PAN Li, “广告翻译准则和方法新探---关联语境翻译视角”, *FIT 18th World Congress*, Shanghai, 4-7 August, 2008, published in conference proceedings (ISRC CN-M20-08-0027-0/V·Z).

OUYANG Qianhua, “Reproducing Cohesive Chains in Consecutive Interpreting”, presented at the 2nd HCLS Conference on Translation, Language Contact, and Multilingual Communication, City University of Hong Kong, 13 - 15 August, 2008.

OUYANG Qianhua, “Contextual Analysis in Dialogue Interpreting---Implications on Pre-task Preparation”, *FIT 18th World Congress*, Shanghai, 4-7 August, 2008, published in conference proceedings (ISRC CN-M20-08-0027-0/V·Z).

Publications

Prof. Zhang Meifang

Zhang Meifang & Ouyang Qianhua (PhD student). “How to Avoid Plagiarism?” in *Crazy English* (Teachers’ edition), 2008/08: 106-110. (張美芳、歐陽倩華, “遵循徵引規範, 杜絕抄襲行為”《瘋狂英語》(教師版), 第8期 106-110頁, 2008年8月出版) (ISSN 1006-2831).

Zhang Meifang & Lin Zuoshuai. “Cantonese Features in Advertisement Translation in Hong Kong and Macao”, in *Translation Quarterly*, 2007 (46): 1-19. (張美芳、林作帥, “港澳地區商業廣告翻譯的粵語特色”, 《翻譯季刊》第46期 1-19頁, 2007年12月出版) (ISSN 1027-8559-32).

Dr Wang Xian, Vincent

“A pragmatic examination of translation of implied meaning”. *Translation Watch Quarterly*, 3(3)2007: 34-45.

Prof. Kim Hughes Wilhelm

Li, H. & Wilhelm, K. H. (2008). Exploring pedagogic reasoning: Reading strategy instruction from two teachers’ perspectives. *The Reading Matrix* 8 (1), 96-110. ISSN: 1533-242X.

http://www.readingmatrix.com/articles/li_wilhelm/article.pdf

Wilhelm, K. H. & Chen, P. (2008). University teachers and students’ perceptions of ELT methodologies and their effectiveness. *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies* 8 (2), 79-102. ISSN: 1675-8021.

http://www.fpBahasa.ukm.my/linguistics/Gema/page79_102.pdf

Prof. Andrew Moody

“Macau English: status, functions and forms”, *English Today*, 24(3): 3-15.

Prof. Christopher Kelen

“Teaching Children the Strange Signs of Nation and Justice in Norman Lindsay’s 1918 Classic”, *The Magic Pudding*, (book chapter), *To See the Wizard*. Ed. Laurie Ouseley. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008.

“Nation, Anthem, Irony in the Figure of Rufus Firefly”,(book chapter), *A Century of the Marx Brothers*. Ed. Joseph Mills. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press.

“Culture as/and Creativity: The Story in a Foreign Language—The Example of *Writing Macao*” *From Hip-Hop to Hyperlinks: Teaching about Culture in the Composition Classroom*. Ed. Joanna N. Paull. Newcastle, England: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008.

Published Volume of Poetry:

After Meng Jiao – Responses to the Tang Poet. Chicago, U.S.A.: VAC Publishing, 2008 (220pp).
(Details: <http://www.vacteam.com/aftermengjiao.htm>)

Biuk-Aghai, R. P., KELEN, C., & VENKATESAN, H. (02/2008). *Visualization of Interactions in Collaborative Writing*. Proceedings of the 2008 Second IEEE International Conference on Digital Ecosystems and Technologies (IEEE DEST 2008). Phitsanulok, Thailand.

Translation/Interpretation

Dr Hari Venkatesan

Simultaneous Interpretation (Chinese - English) for Academic Lecture:“澳門博彩業的建立、興起與發展 (1847-1911) [The Establishment, Rise and Development of Macao's Gaming Industry] at ICM (Cultural Affairs Bureau), Macao. May 9, 2008.

In Photos



Prof. Kim Hughes Wilhelm and MA student Ms Lucia Lo at the 11th World Conference of the World Association for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH) in Yokohama, Japan



Students from Dr Lei’s Survey of Literature course perform the *Second Shepherd’s Play*



DoE Graduates with Faculty at the Graduation Dinner

STUDENTS' CORNER

Creative Writing Class Trip to Kaiping

(by MA student Karen Kun)

On the 30th of May, 2008, Fourth Year ELL Creative Writing students came together with History students from the Sociology major for a field trip to Kaiping and Enping across the border in Guangdong Province. The trip was led by Prof. Christopher Kelen of the English Department and Prof. Robert Antony from the History Department. We also had Dr Rogerio Puga and Prof. Aleksandar Pavkovic from the History Department joining us for this three-day trip.

On this field trip, students from the Sociology major aimed to record oral history of the villagers while Creative Writing students were looking for material for stories. For the oral interviews, each student was paired with another from the other major.



ELL girls were ready to kick it!

Our destination was mainly the Kaiping *diaolou* (treasure towers) and the village of Majianglong (馬降龍), which was one of the villages that were added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the year 2007. The *diaolou* in Kaiping are a unique architectural phenomenon combining Chinese and Western styles. They were built by overseas Chinese, mainly in the early part of the twentieth century. The functions of the buildings were various, and included defence from robbers and floods.

Besides the *diaolou* in the village of Majianglong, we also visited an old commercial street in Chikan Town and some other *diaolou* in the nearby villages, such as Yinglong Lou, and Nan Lou, where the tower is famous for the story of seven brave villagers who fought the Japanese army. On the last day, we went to the Stone Village in Enping. This ghostly abandoned settlement was the highlight of this trip.



The old commercial street in Chikan Town



Everyone in front of Nan Lou