

November Newsletter, 2015

Ginko leaves have totally changed their colors and have become golden. Some of them are already on the ground, which reminds us that winter season is approaching! I hope this letter finds you all well. The November newsletter gives you brief summaries of the Autumn Research Forum 2015 and the general meeting, as well as a reminder of the Early Summer Research Forum 2016 and the PacSLRF conference in 2016.

Report (1) Summary of the Autumn Research Forum 2015

The forum was held in Meijo University MSAT (Mei-Eki Satellite Office) on the 25th of October. A total of 48 participants enjoyed three lectures and the first lecture was by Professor Kuniyoshi Kataoka from Aichi University, entitled “Harmony of language and body: implications for SLA.” He introduced us to how language and body movement orchestrate in a poetic way in accordance with analysis of TV commercials and instructions on cardiac massage. Then, the 2nd 2015 general meeting followed lunch.

In the afternoon, we had two lectures: Professor Yukiko Hatasa from Hiroshima University “Research on instructed second language acquisition through cognitive approaches” and Senior Lecturer Danijela Trenkic from the University of York “How nativelike can non-native speakers be? Grammar comprehension, production and representation.” Focusing on cognitive approaches, Prof. Hatasa gave a review of major findings of studies conducted with instructed L2 learners, followed by methodological issues and future research. The third lecture by Dr. Trenkic focused on acquisition of English article systems: she analyzed L2 performance and the distinction between definite and indefinite articles within the Structural Competition Model. All of the three lectures were very inspiring and gave us the opportunity to deepen our understanding and knowledge in this area of SLA. Again we would like to thank Prof. Kataoka, Prof. Hatasa, and Dr. Trenkic here for their intriguing lectures.

Report (2) Minutes of the 2nd 2015 general meeting

1. Second Language, Vol. 14 & Vol. 15

Koji Suda, the chair of the editorial committee, reported that two research articles were accepted out of seven submissions to *Second Language*, Vol. 14 and that five articles out of eight submitted by the 30th of September passed the first review and have moved forward to the external review for Vol. 15.

2. Change of dates for Early Summer Research Forum 2016

Miki Shibata, the J-SLA secretariat, announced that the forum was originally scheduled on the 5th of June; however, due to various circumstances, it is rescheduled to the 19th of June.

3. Agreement on establishing committees

Shigenori Wakabayashi, the J-SLA president, proposed an agreement on establishing committees to run J-SLA more efficiently. Through discussion, it was approved.

The president also proposed to form a working group to discuss ethical matters. Yuichi Tomita will be appointed as a chair. Eventually an ethical committee will be established in addition to editorial and publicity committees. This proposal was also approved.

4. Budget for PacSLRF 2016

Akihiro Kano, the J-SLA accountant, announced that it would cost 320,000 yen in order to upgrade PacSLRF 2016 homepage. Total operating expenses related to the homepage have been estimated at 130,000 yen in the 2015 budget, which was approved at the 1st general meeting; however, the J-SLA committee strongly agreed that it is necessary and urgent to upgrade the homepage to further promote J-SLA and PacSLRF 2016. Therefore, the accountant proposed to implement the amount as claimed above, and it was approved.

5. Other

Regarding PacSLRF 2016, the J-SLA president explained that the submission deadline for PacSLRF 2016 was extended until the 30th of November and that J-SLA would publicize the conference more extensively.

Reminder (1): PacSLRF 2016

Place: Chuo University

Date: September 9th (Fri) • 10th (Sat) • 11th (Sun), 2016

(Please go to <http://www.j-sla.org/pacslrf/> for further details.)

Reminder (2): Early Summer Research Forum 2016

Since PacSLRF 2016 has been scheduled for next September, we will have an Early Summer Research Forum instead of our annual Autumn Research Forum next year. The forum is open to the public and welcomes all who are interested in SLA related research. Bring your friends and colleagues to this sure-to-be inspiring event.

Place: Kyoto Women's University

Date: June 19, 2016 (Sun)

Invited speakers:

Dr. Shinichiro Ishikawa (Kobe University)

Dr. Miki Shibata (Hiroshima University)

Dr. Shiro Ojima (Shiga University)

Fee : 1,000 yen for both members and non-members

*No pre-registration is required.

For inquiry and more information, please contact Miki Shibata (J-SLA Secretariat) at shibatam@hiroshima-u.ac.jp.