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1974 Summer Meetings in Linguistics

Takeshi HASHIUCHI

This paper is based on my talk made before the Linguistic Society of West Japan Okayama Meeting which was held on September 21st and 22nd, 1974.

1. The 8th JACET Summer Seminar
Hachioji, July 15-27
2. The 4th Intercollegiate Seminar in Linguistics
Kobe, July 31 to August 2
3. Professor Kenneth Pike's Lecture Series
Tokyo, August 20 -22
4. The 6th Hakuba Linguistics Fair
Hakuba, August 21-26
5. The 1st ICU Symposium in Sociolinguistics
Mitaka, August 30
6. The 13th ICU Summer Institute of Linguistics
Mitaka, August 31 & September 1

I am going to present a report on the above listed meetings all of which I attended this past summer.

1. JACET Seminar

Twenty college English teachers from all over Japan joined this seminar. We stayed together at the Inter-University House of Japan at Hachioji almost for two weeks. This workshop was run by the Japan Association of College English Teachers (JACET) whose aim is to improve the English language education in this country, especially on the university level. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the program which contained:

(1) lectures given by three eminent scholars,

A. Dr. K.W. Hunt of Florida State University: Syntactic Development

B. Dr. R.A. Jacobs of the University of Hawaii: Syntax and Semantics

C. Dr. M. Higa of Tsukuba University: Psycholinguistics and Sociolinguistics

(2) practical exercises in oral and written English, and

(3) oral presentation of papers in teaching English as a foreign language to the college students. Both (2) and (3) were assisted by the two British Council language tutors.

In addition we held a symposium on the problems of teaching English on the college level in Japan, which this reporter chaired.

2. Inter-Collegiate Seminar

Three women's colleges, Kinjo Gakuin in Nagoya, Shoin Joshi Gakuin in Kobe and Notre Dame Seishin at Okayama held a joint summer seminar in linguistics. Its program consisted of lectures, discussions and presentation of students' papers. I delivered two lectures entitled

(1) Introduction to social linguistics, and

(2) Hawaiian English and Hawaiian Japanese.

3. Professor Kenneth Pike's Lecture Series

This lecture meeting was planned by JACET and it was held at Sophia University in Tokyo. Dr. Pike introduced to the Japanese linguists the recent development in tagmemic analysis. His talk on speech mechanism well demonstrated the fact that

he was one of the greatest phoneticians in the world.

4. Hakuba Linguistics Fair

This is an annual summer workshop of the Chuubu Circle of Applied Linguistics. The first three days of the program aims at the orientation to the scientific study of language and languages, whereas the last three days of the workshop concentrates on a single area of linguistic research. Last year it was psycholinguistics, this year it was sociolinguistics. Professor Nobuyuki Honna of Kinjo Gakuin and Dr Fred Peng and I lectured on some aspects of language in culture and society.

5. ICU Symposium in Sociolinguistics

"Language in Japanese society" was the theme of the symposium. Six papers read were:

- (1) Takao Suzuki (Keio University): Japanese Attitude towards their Mother Tongue.
- (2) P. Forge (Nanzan Junior College): Community Language Learning: Findings Based on Three Years of Research in Japan
- (3) Nobuyuki Honna (Kinjo Gakuin University) : Social Structure and Language Behavior: a Case Study of a Japanese Community
- (4) Fred Peng (ICU): Sociolinguistic Patterns of Japanese Kinship Behavior
- (5) Kikuo Nomoto (National Language Research Institute): To What Extent Has Language Standardization Been Taken Place Last Twenty Years?
- (6) Takeshi Shibata (Tokyo University): Some Topics in Japanese Sociolinguistics

Finally, two Ainus, Tasuke Yamamoto and Tokuhei Narita,

delivered a talk. They stressed that not only their own language but the existence of their ethnic group itself has long been dismissed by most of the Japanese people.

6. ICU Summer Institute of Linguistics

Over a dozen papers were read. Most of them were discussed within the framework of transformational generative linguistics.

We listened to two special lectures:

- (1) Ai Ohkubo (National Language Research Institute) : Language Acquisition in Children
- (2) Kazuko Inoue (ICU) : Current Trends in American Linguistics

The former provided us her own data of child language, while the latter showed us the birdseye view of linguistic research today.

Prof. Inoue's talk was based on her most recent visit to two leading universities of America, MIT and the University of California. She emphasized that the current state of art is very much complicated.

We can, however, find two noticeable directions.

- (1) the diversification of linguistic theory and
- (2) the interdisciplinary approach to language.

In short, we are entering the Post-Chomskian era. It might be very good not to have the almighty guru.