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PREFACE

The 21st North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-21) was held at Bryant University on June 6-8, 2009. A total of 135 proposals were submitted to the conference organizing committee. Out of them seventy were selected for presentation at the conference, which covered a full range of issues in Chinese linguistics and applied linguistics and represented scholars from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, North America, and UK.

Two featured speakers with international reputation in Chinese linguistics were invited. They were Professor Yen-Hwei Lin (林燕慧) from Michigan State University and Professor Hong-yin Tao (陶红印) from University of California, Los Angeles. Both presentations were exemplary and highly regarded by the participants.

Although it took place amid the H1N1 flu scare, yet over 120 people attended the conference and actively participated in the presentation sessions, discussions, and networking. There were 94 pre-registered presenters, with the remainder being interested faculty and students from local schools or universities. The conference also attracted book exhibit from Cheng & Tsui Publishing Company and announced a new book entitled *The Syntax of Chinese* (2009), Cambridge University Press, by C. -T. James Huang, Y. -H. Audrey Li, and Yafei Li.

After the conference ended, the presenters were invited to submit their revised papers for publication of the Proceedings of the 21st North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics. Thirty-nine of the presented papers were submitted and included in the proceedings. Based on their research topics, the papers were placed in two volumes and divided into six theme-based parts, including the invited papers. (See Table of Contents for detailed information.)

The conference was organized by Yun Xiao, and the conference website was designed by professional website designer, Connecticut-based Normalkings, Inc. and maintained by Bryant University after the conference ended. The organizing committee included two faculty members in the Modern Language Department, Assistant to the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and the director of US-China Institute at Bryant university. In addition, a dozen of Chinese faculty members, US-China Institute staff, and student interns were involved in the preparation and operation of the conference.

Yun Xiao, Ph.D.

Smithfield, Rhode Island

December 2009

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Bryant University

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Department of History & Social Sciences

NACCL-21 Organizing Committee members

China

Office of Chinese Language Council International (HANBAN)

Brown University

East Asian Studies

The Center for Language Studies

Cheng & Tsui Publishing Company, Boston, M.A.

NACCL-21 also profoundly acknowledges the help from the abstract reviewers and volunteers who worked diligently to assist in conference preparation and facilitating many of its activities.

Year	Conference	NACCL CONFERENCES (1989-2009 Host Institution	9) Organizers
1989	NACCL-1	The Ohio State University	James HY. Tai Marjorie K.M. Chan Robert Sanders
1990	NACCL-2	University of Pennsylvania	Jerome L. Packard
1991	NACCL-3	Cornell University	CT. James Huang
1992	NACCL-4	University of Michigan	William Baxter San Duanmu
1993	NACCL-5	University of Delaware	Thomas Ernst
1994	NACCL-6	University of Southern California	Yen-hui Audrey Li
1995	NACCL-7 ICCL-4	University of Wisconsin at Madison	Tsai-Fa Cheng, Yafei Li Hongming Zhang
1996	NACCL-8	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champa	ign Chin-chuan Cheng Jerome L. Packard
1997	NACCL-9	University of Victoria, BC Canada	Hua Lin
1998	NACCL-10 IACL-7	Stanford University	Chaofen Sun
1999	NACCL-11	Harvard University	Baozhang He
2000	NACCL-12	San Diego State University	Zhengsheng Zhang
2001	NACCL-13 IACL-10	University of California at Irvine	CT. James Huang
2002	NACCL-14	University of Arizona	Feng-hsi Liu
2003	NACCL-15	Michigan State University	Yen-Hwei Lin
2004	NACCL-16	University of Iowa	Chuanren Ke
2005	NACCL-17	Monterey Language Institute	Qian Gao
2006	NACCL-18	Western Washington University	Janet Xing
2007	NACCL- 19/IACL 15	Columbia University	Lening Liu
2008	NACCL-20	The Ohio State University	Marjorie K.M. Chan
2009	NACCL-21	Bryant University	Yun Xiao