Thursday 4 June 5:20pm - 6:00pm Room: Block Y, Room Y402

Presentation Title: Using web resources to encourage learner

autonomy and foster accuracy

| Presenter / Co-presenters: | Mingming Yuan, Shantou University, China |
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| Theme: | E-learning initiatives |
| Presentation Type: | Paper presentation |

Abstract

This paper discusses an e-learning initiative to promote learner autonomy, and to foster accuracy in a particular area: Chinese English learners' mistakes from L1 transfer. These mistakes differ from Chinese English, which many consider acceptable, in that they are not creative deviations with sociolinguistic explanations, but the indication of inadequacy in acquisition (see discussion by Kachru, 1982: 325). An example would be using oil gate to refer to a filling station. Students of a tertiary institute in south China are asked to keep portfolios of their experience with such mistakes, in which they are suggested to write down L1 transfers, resources they have used to correct the mistakes, the correct forms and self-refection. On-line resources such as the British National Corpus and Google.com are introduced to facilitate the process. The paper also discusses the interaction between self-assisted learning and learners' attitudes toward Chinese English. It would hopefully offer some idea on teaching English in an EIL (English as an International Language) era.

Reference

Kachru, B. B. (1982). The other tongue: English across cultures (pp. 162-177). Urbana; Chicago; London: University of Illinois Press.

Biodata

Mingming Yuan is an English instructor in Shantou University. She holds a TESOL master's degree with Melbourne University. Her academic interests include world Englishes, learner autonomy, curriculum development and pragmatics.