

Keynote Speeches 专题演讲

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The Chinese Language Field in the 21st Century: Lessons (Not) Learned from Japanese in the 20th Century

In a series of articles beginning in 1994, Richard Brecht and the late A. Ronald Walton identified five sectors in the United States as sources for providing national capacity in the Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs): (1) academic; (2) government; (3) domestic ethnic language preservation (aka “heritage”); (4) overseas; and, (5) private providers. This presentation will provide a comparative analysis based upon that sector analysis of two LCTL fields in two different time frames – Japanese in the late 20th century, and Chinese in the early 21st century. It will be argued that for the Chinese language field, the lessons of the past have not been sufficiently considered and incorporated as part of the process of the phenomenal quantitative growth of Chinese language instruction over the past decade in particular.

❖ Dr. Scott McGinnis (Ph.D. Ohio State University, 1990) is the Academic Advisor for the Washington Office of the Defense Language Institute (DLI). He also holds the academic rank of professor at DLI. Between 1999 and 2003, he served as Executive Director of the National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages at the National Foreign Language Center in College Park, Maryland. In three decades in the language teaching

profession, he has held positions at institutions including the University of Pennsylvania and Middlebury College, and has a decade of experience as supervisor of the Chinese language programs at the University of Oregon and University of Maryland. Dr. McGinnis has authored or edited five books, and over 50 book chapters, journal articles and reviews on language pedagogy and linguistics for the less commonly taught languages in general, and Chinese and Japanese in particular. He previously served two terms as President of the Chinese Language Teachers Association, as chair of The College Board Chinese Language Test Development Committee for the Educational Testing Service, and as a member of the Board of Examiners for the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. His current professional responsibilities include serving as Coordinator for the Interagency Language Roundtable for the United States Government.

Fangyuan Yuan 袁芳远



The United States Naval Academy

**What Research on L2 Chinese Has Informed Us
and What Teachers Can Do to Enhance Our Pedagogical Practice?**

This talk will start with a summary of research on Chinese as second language over the past three decades with a focus on classroom discourse, form-focused instruction, and task-based language teaching. It will be followed by a discussion on the research findings that can be applied to our instructional practice and the gaps that need to meet in Chinese classrooms. It will be concluded

by a call for action research initiated by classroom instructors to investigate and enhance our own practice in a more systematic manner.

❖ Dr. Fangyuan Yuan is a professor of Chinese at the United States Naval Academy and an instructor of the MA Program at the Middlebury Summer School. Her research interests include Chinese second language acquisition (SLA) in the instructional context, teacher training, and content-based language instruction. She has published books and textbooks in the US, Singapore, and China; research articles in *Language Learning*, *Studies of Second Language Acquisition*, *Chinese as a Second Language*, etc.; and book chapters including an one in *The Routledge Handbook of Chinese Second Language Acquisition*. She is currently co-editing a book on classroom-based research in Chinese SLA. She has been invited to present research studies and conduct teacher-training workshops at Beijing Language and Culture University, Capital Normal University in Beijing, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, Rutgers University, Hangzhou Normal University, etc. In 2018-2019, she is serving as the Vice President of The Chinese Language Teachers Association – US and will be the Association’s President in 2019-2020.