

12.00 – 12.30

Yaqing Chen: *Cross-modal Bilingualism: Language Contact Phenomena in Chinese*

The article analyses cross-modal language contact between signed and spoken language with special reference to Chinese Deaf Community. The analysis is based on collected data in the form of word list, personal stories, free talks and conversations by three native signers and two deaf signers who learn CSL as a second language. The investigation concerns with the phenomena of lexical borrowing, code-switching, as well as the unique phenomenon of mouthing in the cross-modal language contact situation. The major aim is to determine the nature and characteristics of the outcome of language contact in Chinese Deaf Community. A continuum of varieties between Chinese and CSL is also proposed. Finally, it is concluded that common spoken language contact or sociolinguistic frameworks need to be expanded in order to analyse cross-modal contact and a framework discussing languages involved in the sign-spoken language contact is proposed.

Keywords: Language contact, cross-modality, Bilingualism, Chinese Sign Language