CAT Bulletin is published to facilitate the dissemination of information relating to the Master of Arts in Computer-aided Translation Programme of the Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, to targeted readers. It includes information on programme structure, course contents, staff profiles, academic activities, public seminars, staff publications, and research findings. It also provides information on new advances in computer-aided translation through the presentation of conference proceedings, speeches at the seminars on translation technology, and students’ translation projects. It is hoped that there will be a better understanding of computer-aided translation and our M.A. programme through the publication of CAT Bulletin.

Computer-aided translation is a fast-growing area. CAT systems are also widely used in different parts of the world, and have become an essential part of the translation profession. Translators need to realize this global trend and receive proper training in computer-aided translation to enhance their skills in translation technology in order to meet the challenges in the future. CAT Bulletin, a quarterly, will report on the efforts we make in this direction and the development of our MACAT programme.

Editor
The M.A. in Computer-aided Translation Programme offered by the Department of Translation is the only one of its kind in Hong Kong and the Greater China region. Since its inception in 2002, we constantly make changes to improve the programme and its courses. Beginning with the new academic year, we will strengthen translation-skills training and increase the emphasis on software theory and application, so that the programme will become more application-wise. In other words, we are gradually moving from Machine Translation towards Computer-aided Translation. This is to align the programme with the global trend of user orientation and the needs of society. At the same time such a change is also in step with our department’s goal of professionalisation.

Perhaps there are still people who remain suspicious of computer translation. Let me tell them that their doubts are unnecessary and unfounded, as there is yet some time, judging from current developments, before human translators are replaced by machines (if ever). Which is to say, translators do not have to worry about losing their “rice bowls,” at least for the time being. If we look at the matter from another perspective, computer translation has the undeniable advantages of speed, consistency and cost-effectiveness. The latest research on translation memory, for instance, will no doubt bring about eye-opening breakthroughs in computer-translation application.

In recent years we have seen phenomenal advances in information technology. The study of translation has no choice but to move forward with the times. This spirit has been the driving force behind our goal to provide our students and Hong Kong society with cutting-edge translation education and the latest in academic research. For this reason we hosted the International Conference on Translation Software in 2004, which was unprecedented in the Greater China region. During the conference, we developed links with many multinational software producers with a view to future alliances and co-operations. This initiative has proven to be highly beneficial to our research and teaching, at the same time opening the door to more international exchanges and partnerships between academia and industry.
The Department of Translation offers programmes which meet the needs of society. Hong Kong is a biliterate, trilingual, and technologically advanced society in which there is a close relationship between computers and translation. And that accounts for our establishment of the world-first Master of Arts in Computer-aided Translation programme three years ago. As most of our students are graduates of the arts and social sciences fields, and only a few of them are engineering graduates, beginning from this year, we offer more courses in different areas to make our course structure more flexible, meeting the varied expectations of our students.

There are basically two types of courses: the required and the electives. The required courses include:

1. Introduction to Computer-aided Translation
2. Translation Theory and Methodology
3. Editing Skills for Computer Translation

The elective courses are divided into Group A and Group B. Group A are Translation Practice courses, which include Advanced Commercial Translation, Advanced Scientific Translation, and Bilingual Lexicography. Group B are Computer Science courses, which include Computer Translation, Approaches to Computer Translation, and Natural Language Processing. Students must take at least one course from each Group.

Based on their ability and interest, students can specialize in one of the following three areas:

(I) Translation Practice
(II) Computer-aided Translation
(III) Computer Science.

The suggested study schemes of the three specializations are illustrated in Figure 1.

Li Defeng, B.A., M.Phil. Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, has taught English and translation in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Canada. His academic interests include second language education and translation studies. For the latter, he has been researching on specialized translation, translation pedagogy, curriculum development and translation research methods. His articles have appeared in *TESOL Quarterly and Teaching and Teacher Education*, *Target*, *Meta*, *Babel*, *Perspectives*等學術期刊發表論文多篇。李博士現正翻譯Jeremy Munday 所著的 *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications* 一書，同時正主編一部英漢法律翻譯的論文集。

Li Defeng, B.A., M.Phil. Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, has taught English and translation in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Canada. His academic interests include second language education and translation studies. For the latter, he has been researching on specialized translation, translation pedagogy, curriculum development and translation research methods. His articles have appeared in *TESOL Quarterly and Teaching and Teacher Education*, *Target*, *Meta*, *Babel*, *Perspectives*. He is currently translating into Chinese *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications* by Jeremy Munday and editing a volume of collected articles on English-Chinese legal translation.
This inaugural issue carries biographical sketches of all the teachers of the programme, including their research interests and publications, to serve as reference for course selection. It can be gathered from their biographical information that all of them are doctoral degree-holders and experienced teachers. It is hoped that students will benefit from the revised curriculum and the experienced teachers.

**Teachers of the Programme**

**王士元教授  Professor William Shi-Yuan Wang**

William Shi-Yuan Wang is a Research Professor in the Departments of Electronic Engineering and Linguistics and Modern Languages at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is the author of numerous articles in both technical and general science journals, and has contributed to several encyclopedias, including the *Oxford International Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. He has long been an advocate of multi-disciplinary approaches to studying language evolution, focusing his recent research on language evolution from linguistic, engineering and biological perspectives.

**周兆祥博士  Dr. Chau Siu Cheong**

Simon S.C. Chau was born and grew up in Hong Kong, and worked as school teacher, editor, graphic designer, instructional television producer and presenter, newspaper columnist, radio talk-show host, and free lance translator and interpreter. He taught translation at four local universities in Hong Kong. His career in social activism began in the early 1970s, and published 106 academic, professional and popular books since then. He retired from his full-time teaching post in 2005 to channel his energy to launch Club O, a charity to promote green living.
Dr. Jacqueline Lam Kam-mei

Jacqueline Lam Kam-mei works in the Language Centre at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Her Ph.D is from the University of Exeter, England. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Linguists, and is currently engaged in two dictionary projects: the development of a proposed set of biliterate and trilingual dictionaries for English, Cantonese and Putonghua, and the compilation of the HKUST Wordlist for university first-year students. Her research interests include vocabulary acquisition, translation, and dictionary compilation. She edits The Hong Kong Linguist, the journal of the Hong Kong branch of the Institute of Linguists, London.

Dr. Cecilia Wong Shuk-man

Cecilia Wong Shuk-man received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from the City University of Hong Kong. She taught at the City University of Hong Kong before joining The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2004. Since then, she has been teaching at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her research interests are discourse analysis and computational linguistics.

Dr. Leung Chi Hong

Leung Chi Hong graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and received his B.Sc. degree in biology, and M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees in computer science. He was also awarded the M.B.A. and M.EdSt. degrees by the University of Leicester and the University of Western Australia respectively. He worked in teaching and research posts at the University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His major research areas include natural language processing, IT in education, and e-commerce.

Dr. Cecilia Wong Shuk-man

Cecilia Wong Shuk-man received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from the City University of Hong Kong. She taught at the City University of Hong Kong before joining The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2004. Since then, she has been teaching at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She has written several research articles in ontology processing and text analysis. Her research interests are discourse analysis and computational linguistics.
自然語言處理 (NLP) 的一個主要目標是使電腦能以人類溝通的方式來處理自然語言。語言可以歸納成三個S範疇：意思 (Sense)、語音 (Speech)，和文字 (Script)。「意思」就是語言在各系統，包括語法系統，的內部結構。「語音」和「文字」則分別是用聲音和圖像來表示語言的兩個範疇，與它們對應的四個活動分別是「說」和「聽」、「寫」和「閱」。

這課程旨在討論上述的範疇及其相應活動，從重點角度研究組織語言的方法，以及探討利用電腦處理自然語言的當前成果，尤其在處理中文和英文方面。雖然NLP在近五十年來已有所進展，但在這方面電腦仍遠遠落後於人類。這課程將會探討研究人員所遇到的困難以及未來的研究方向。

A major goal of NLP is to enable computers to process natural languages in ways that we humans do. We may think of language as occurring in three S domains: Sense, Speech, and Script. Sense involves the internal organization of linguistic information into various systems, including a grammatical system. Speech and Script are the two domains which connect the internal representations of linguistic information with sound waves and with graphic symbols respectively. The four corresponding activities are speaking and hearing for one, and writing and reading for the other.

In this course, we will discuss each of these domains and its associated activities. We will examine some major perspectives on how language is organized. We will also review current efforts at harnessing the computer to process language, particularly with respect to Chinese and English. Although progress has been made over the past half-century, computers are still very far behind humans in NLP; we will discuss some of the difficulties researchers have encountered as well as what future research must include.

高級商務翻譯  Advanced Commercial Translation

本課程旨在研習商業文本的格式、特點及相關的翻譯方法和技巧。學生須定期翻譯難度不同、具代表性的商業文本。堂上和堂外練習相結合，並輔以課堂討論，為學生提供實用性的訓練。課題包括：（一）商務信函翻譯、（二）廣告等宣傳材料翻譯、（三）操作手冊與操作指南翻譯、（四）業務報告翻譯、（五）財經金融文本翻譯、（六）企業證明和合同翻譯、（七）會議紀錄和通報翻譯。課程會以網上教學平台 Web CT 配合，提升教學的效果。學生除須完成定期作業，還須就相關課題參與堂上及網上討論。

This course studies the format, features and related translation methods and techniques in translating commercial texts. This course is essentially practical in that it concentrates, through regular home and class assignments followed by discussions of the students’ work, on translating representative and graded commercial texts.

Topics in this course will include (1) translation of business correspondences; (2) translation of promotional materials; (3) translation of operational manuals; (4) translation of business reports; (5) translation of financial texts; (6) translation of business certificates and contracts; (7) translating Board of Director minutes and notices.

In order to enhance the teaching of this course, Web CT will be utilized to complement lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to complete regular assignments and participate in class as well as online discussions on topics related to this course.
As students pursuing master degree in Computer-aided Translation, we have aspirations to manipulate a set of the latest computer-aided translation software for practical translation. Therefore, TRADOS, the software with over 70% market share in the world, was chosen as our project tool. Supervised by Prof. Chan Sin-wai, we took casino, which is important in economy but was ignored in the translation field, as our project. 1,150 casino terminologies were translated into Chinese to establish a casino Termbase by using TRADOS MultiTerm (version 6.2.0.287). Finally four English articles about Blackjack and Baccarat, the most popular casino games, were selected and translated into Chinese with the aid of TRADOS 6.5 Freelance (version 6.5.5.441).

As a final project, our group developed a tool that translates English chemical compound names into Chinese, based on an algorithm that recognises each part of the name. We identified a real need, and by thinking carefully about all aspects of the package’s design and functionality, and getting actual students to evaluate it, we produced a uniquely useful and easy-to-use tool that genuinely made studying Chemistry easier for secondary students.

Through our commitment, we enjoyed every moment of the project, and felt like proud parents when our “baby” was finally born.
To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the B.A. in Translation programme and 20th anniversary of the M.A. in Translation programme, and to promote the use of translation technology in the field, the Department of Translation held an international conference on “Translation Software — The State of the Art” at Cho Yiu Hall on 4th December, 2004.

Organizations and companies which took part in the conference included the Huajian Group of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing (Huajian translation software), Macau Institute of Systems and Computer Engineering of the University of Macau in Macau (EMBT Portuguese-Chinese translation software), SDL International in the United Kingdom (SDLX computer-aided translation software), PASS Engineering GmbH in Germany (Passolo localization software), TRADOS in the United States (TRADOS translation memory system), SUNV (Yaxin computer-aided translation system), and the Engineering Faculty of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (language engineering projects).

This was the first international conference on the state-of-the-art of translation software. It covered a number of areas, including computer translation, computer-aided translation, web-page translation, software localization, foreign language translation, and speech translation. A unique feature of the conference was the introduction of the design and making of translation software by software producers and researchers and they demonstrated with real-life examples the operation of their products. This conference provided a good opportunity for students of translation programmes, translation practitioners, researchers and all those who are concerned with the growth of the profession to learn from and exchange views with the speakers in the conference.
**Opening Address by Professor Daniel P. L. Law**  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts

文学院院长罗炳良教授致开幕辞

**Morning Session**

### 中國科學院華建集團總裁
黃河燕博士
講題：〈多語機器翻譯及系列應用〉
Dr Huang Heyan  
President of the Huajian Group, Chinese Academy of Sciences  
Topic: “Multilingual Machine Translation and Series Applications”

金聖華教授(右)致送紀念品
Souvenir presentation by Professor Serena Jin (right)

### 澳門大學澳門系統及計算機工程研究所執行主任
董名重教授
講題：〈葡-中機助段落翻譯系統〉
Professor Dong Mingchui  
Executive Director of the Institute of Systems and Computer Engineering,  
University of Macau  

方純勳教授(右)致送紀念品
Souvenir presentation by Professor Gilbert C. F. Fong (right)

### 中國思迪軟件科技有限公司總經理
盧冬林先生
講題：〈保障未來，信賴SDLX〉
Mr George Lu  
General Manager of SDL International, China  
Topic: “Safeguard Your Future, Put Your Trust in SDLX”

童元方教授(右)致送紀念品
Souvenir presentation by Professor Tung Yuanfang (right)

### 交大銘泰軟件有限公司副總裁
何戰濤先生
講題：〈翻譯實踐中協同工作的必要性〉
Mr He Zhantao  
Vice-president of SJTU Sunway Software Industry Limited  
Topic: “The Need of Co-ordination in Translation Practice”

李德鳳教授(右)致送紀念品
Souvenir presentation by Professor Li Defeng (right)
Welcoming Address by Professor Gilbert C. F. Fong
Chairman of the Department

Organizing Committee of the Conference

Professor Chan Sin-wai (Convenor)
Professor Tung Yuanfang
Professor Li Defeng
Dr. Yau Wing Ping
Miss Wang Ling
Mrs Rosaline Li (Secretary)
Miss Lois Li (Secretary)

Software demonstration booths

Chinese translation:

翻譯系系主任方梓勳教授致歡迎辭

下午部份 Afternoon Session

Prof Helen M. L. Meng
Director of the Human-Computer Communications Laboratory, CUHK
Topic: “Recent Activities in Language Engineering at CUHK: Data-driven Approaches Pertaining to Machine Translation”

Mr Nadir Moubarrid
Localization Engineer of PASS Engineering GmbH, Germany
Topic: “Software Internationalization and Localization”

Mr Grant Fang
Managing Director of Trados China
Topic: “20 Years of the Great Memories — Trados, Translation Memory and Global Content Management”

软件演示攤位 Software demonstration booths

會議組織委員會
Organizing Committee of the Conference

陳喜偉教授 Professor Chan Sin-wai (召集人 Convenor)
童元方教授 Professor Tung Yuanfang
李學然教授 Professor Li Defeng
邱傑平博士 Dr. Yau Wing Ping
王凌女士 Miss Wang Ling
李陳妙芳女士 Mrs Rosaline Li (秘書Secretary)
李慧嫺女士 Miss Lois Li (秘書Secretary)
James W. Minett and William S-Y. Wang, eds. (2005)
*Language Acquisition, Change and Emergence*
Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press

*Translation and Bilingual Dictionaries*
Tubingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag

**Programme co-ordinator**

Miss Tiffany T. Y. Fung received her B.Eng and M.Phil degrees in Systems Engineering and Engineering Management from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Before joining the Department of Translation in June 2005, she has worked at Microsoft Research Asia and the Human-Computer Communications Laboratory, focusing on the research and development of speech and language technologies. Tiffany is currently responsible for co-ordinating the M.A. in Computer-aided Translation programme and her duties include publishing the *CAT Bulletin*, organizing seminars, co-ordinating the teaching of CAT courses, managing the translation software database and computer room, and providing programme-related assistance to CAT students.