1. Development of the Society

1.1. Membership

We are delighted to welcome the following 20 new members who joined the Society this year.

Life Members: Yuanjian HE, Xiaoheng ZHANG, Juen-kon WONG

Regular Members: Wi-vun CHIUNG, Vinci Wing See HO, Jenny Yi-chun KUO, Jiun-Shiung WU, Xiaonong ZHU

Affiliated Members: Noga ILANI, Huijuan LIU, Lingling WANG

Student Members: Katherine Hoi Ying CHAN, Xi CUN, Yuk-man CHUNG, Hua GAO, Hongyong LIU, Ming Kay POON, Pui Kwan Fionna SO, Ut Seong SIO, Claudia W.-W. WONG

2. Activities

2.1 Study group

A reading group on noun phrases was organized on July 25, 2003. A recent manuscript by Richard Kayne’s was reviewed and the discussion was led by Ben AU-YEUNG.

2.2 Cantonese romanization

2.2.1 Jyutping Promotion Group

The Jyutping Promotion Group is now editing a textbook on Cantonese. There will be ten chapters covering various themes, such as greetings, numbers and counting, asking the way, transportation, eating, shopping, sightseeing, entertainment, making phone calls, and festivals. The
textbook will be informative and educational.

2.2.2 Commercial products
An agreement was reached this year that a license to use the Big-5/HKSCS character set with Jyutping input method was given to Research In Motion (HK) Limited to implement a Cantonese based input method in their handheld computer products.

2.2.3 Cantonese romanization projects
The Society supported a number of research projects on Cantonese romanization by providing advice and relevant services, namely ‘Standardization of Cantonese Romanization and Building Blocks for Phonetics based Applications’ (ITF project) and ‘Recommended List of Chinese Characters and Chinese Lexical Items for Students’ Learning at Primary Level (小學常用字表及參考詞語表)’ (EMB project). We are confident that the output of these projects will benefit our community.

2.2.4 Workshop on romanization and transcription
This year is the tenth anniversary of Jyutping. To mark this special occasion, a workshop on romanization and transcription is organized during the ARF.

2.3 Outstanding Thesis Award
I would like to congratulate the two winners of this year’s award, Carmen Ka-Man LEE’s MPhil thesis on Chinese and English computer-mediated communication in the context of new literacy studies (Department of Linguistics, HKU), and Mei-fung LAI’s MA thesis on some linguistics properties of tim in Cantonese (Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, PolyU). On behalf of the ExCom I would like to express our appreciation to the eight anonymous reviewers for their professional and fair judgments on the nominated theses and their time, and to Vice-President Cathy WONG for coordinating the job.

2.4 Constitution amendments
A working group on revision of the LSHK constitution was formed, whose members included Tony HUNG, Thomas LEE, Sze-Wing TANG, and Cathy WONG. A number of revisions were proposed and endorsed by the Executive Committee. A postal ballot was sent out in November, 2003.
However, the number of the ballots returned was insufficient to approve the changes.

3. Publications

3.1 Second edition of Jyutping handbook
The second edition of Guide to LSHK Cantonese Romanization of Chinese Characters (《粵語拼音字表（第二版）》) was published in December 2002 and is now distributed by Commercial Press (Hong Kong) Limited.

3.2 On-line proceedings of ARF 02
22 papers are collected in the on-line proceedings of ARF 02, which will be ready very soon.

4. Sponsorship

4.1 The Society initiated and co-sponsored the 4th Postgraduate Research Forum on Linguistics held on October 31, 2003 at the University of Hong Kong.

5. Financial Situation

5.1 This is a healthy year for the Society’s financial status. Our Treasurer Ping JIANG will give a full report on the financial situation in her final year financial statement.

6. Acknowledgments

6.1 To the sponsor of ARF 2003
We are grateful to Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University for their support in providing the venue and arranging the co-sponsorship.
6.2 To other ExCom members

As President of the outgoing Executive Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the colleagues in the committee for their assistance and contribution: Cathy WONG (Vice-President), Baoning FU (Secretary), Ping JIANG (Treasurer), Caesar LUN (Communications Coordinator), Min ZHANG (Newsletter Editor), Tony HUNG, and Gladys TANG (members-at-large). It has been a great privilege being able to work with them with great enthusiasm and harmony for these two years. Thank you!

Sze-Wing Tang
December 6, 2003