

参加学术会议报告

陈志娟

会议名称: The 16th International Pragmatics Conference (IPrA-2019)

时间: 9th to 14th June 2019

地点: 香港理工大学

主办单位: International Pragmatics Association

IPrA 是国际语用学协会(International Pragmatics Association)每两年举办一次的国学会会议,是语用学科内很重要的一个学术会议。这次的会议在香港的香港理工大学举行,吸引了1200多位来自世界各地的参与者,包括学科内的知名学者。会议由大会报告(plenary sessions)和分组报告(parallel sessions)组成。

在会议期间,本人在分组报告上发表了论文一篇,题目是"Getting things done in a medical laboratory in Hong Kong: A study of linguistic form and contingency in task assignment" (co-authored with Zhang Wei)。本人也参加了大会报告和分组报告,并有与会者进行学术交流,受益良多。现附上论文摘要,大会邀请函,和相片做参考。

Getting things done in a medical laboratory in Hong Kong: A study of linguistic form and contingency in task assignment

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Recent conversation-analytic studies have reported that in English the choice of syntactic forms in giving a directive often displays the speaker's understanding of the degree of entitlement/contingency in the directive. A less imposing and more mitigated form (e.g., interrogative) shows the speaker's orientation to the high contingency involved in the directive. Interestingly, our previous research has revealed that (1) directives in Cantonese are frequently formulated in imperative forms which are often viewed as direct and imposing from a western point of view; and (2) the force of an imperative-formatted directive is often mitigated through lexical and other means in the design of the directive turn and the organisation of the sequence in which the directive is embedded. In this paper, we develop our investigation by focusing on task assignment (a typical type of giving directives) and examine the design of the turn in which the task is assigned with regard to their placement in the embedded sequence and the degree of entitlement/contingency.

The study reported here draws on over 20 hours of audio or video-recorded daily interaction between the supervisor and the junior staff members. The interaction was conducted in Cantonese. Adopting a conversation analytic approach, we focus on turn design and sequence organisation of task assignment by the supervisor.

Traditionally managers/supervisors, as legitimised by their institutional role, are considered to be entitled to ask their subordinates to do work-related tasks. However, in given interactional situations the possibility of getting the recipient/subordinate's acceptance is contingent upon many factors such as the recipient's availability and the task's urgency and complexity. We find that the intertwined relationship among linguistic form, sequence organisation, and the degree of entitlement/contingency involved in a directive is complex and dynamic. Our data shows that when a task falls within the recipient's daily routine/job responsibility and does not involve any complexity, the assignment sequence is often structured in a simple "summons-answer-directive-compliance-acknowledgement" sequence, showing the supervisor's orientation to the entitlement associated with the task assignment. However, when a task requires special treatment or has a short deadline, the assignment sequence is often structured in a more complex way to show orientations to the contingencies involved. In addition to the choice of syntactic forms, orientations to contingencies are often reflected through other linguistic and interactional means such as utterance particles, justification, and Q-A sequences preceding or following the directive turn. This is probably due to the fact that imperatives are the conventionalised format of directives in Cantonese, speakers employ other resources available in the language to reduce anticipated contingencies and increase the degree of entitlement in order to ensure successful task assignment.

Keywords: directives, entitlement and contingency, Cantonese, workplace interaction, turn design, sequence organization

附件二：大會邀請函



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
英文系

29 April 2019

Chan Chi Kuen, Angela
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Dear Dr Angela Chi Kuen Chan,

The 16th International Pragmatics Conference: Notification of abstract acceptance

Thank you for your submission to the 16th International Pragmatics Conference which will be held on 9-14 June 2019 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.

We are pleased to inform you that your abstract entitled “**Getting things done in a medical laboratory in Hong Kong: A study of linguistic form and contingency in task assignment**” has been accepted by the Conference. Please refer to our email for the day on which you are expected to make your presentation. We certainly prefer that you attend the full conference, but if you have to cut your stay short, please adapt your travel plans accordingly.

Please note that the conference starts on Sunday 9 June 2019, at 14:00, with a conference opening, two plenary lectures, and an award ceremony for this year's John J. Gumperz Lifetime Achievement Award. It may also interest you to know that on Sunday morning (9:30 to 12:30), there is a pre-conference session on East Asian Pragmatics.

Thank you for joining us, and we look forward to seeing you in June!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Winnie Cheng'.

Winnie Cheng
Conference Chair, The 16th International Pragmatics Conference
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Department of English
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附件三：相片



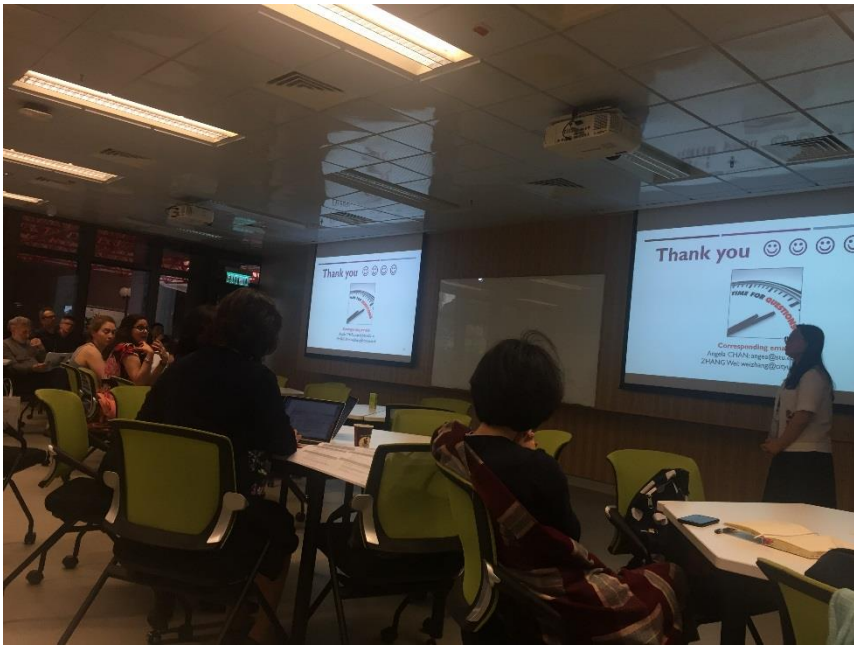
1 与会者聚集在演讲厅等候主题报告的开始。



2. Prof Meredith Mara 开始她的 plenary lecture



3 本人在做报告



4 本人在回答听众的提问