IEEE PCSJ 1st Technical Meeting

JUNE 29, 2013

Venue: Mitsue - Links Corp.

About the Chapter: The Professional Communication Society - Japan Chapter (PCSJ) is Japan's leading society on scientific, technical, and professional communication practices. The Chapter holds regular technical meetings, workshops, and an annual conference.

Chapter Officers (2012 – 2013):

Chair: Debopriyo Roy (University of Aizu)	
Vice Chair: Pauline Kawamoto (Shinshu University)	
Secretary: Kevin Cleary (Tokyo Medical and Dental University)	
Treasurer: Terumi Miyazoe (Tokyo Denki University)	
Webmaster: Laurence Anthony (Waseda University)	

Saturday, June 29, 2013

Meeting venue: Mitsue-Links Head Office (Seminar Room)

Sumitomo Fudosan Shinjuku Grand Tower 33F, 8-17-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

http://www.mitsue.co.jpenglish/company/access/head_office.html

Dinner: Mana-Mana (Italian Kitchen) @ B1F of same building.

http://r.gnavi.co.jp/6390899/
http://tabelog.com/tokyo/A1304/A130401/13136106/

SCHEDULE

12:15 pm – Registration, PCS-J Technical Meeting (Members: 1,000 JPY, Non-members: 2,000 JPY)

12:45 pm – Opening Speech by PCSJ Chair

12:50 – 1:50 pm – 1ST Keynote Speech: An Eclectic Approach to Technology-Enhanced Language Learning (TELL)

- ***Kazunori NOZAWA***

1:55 – 2:55 pm – 2ND Keynote Speech: Pronunciation and Professional Communication

- ***Ian WILSON***

3:00 – 3:20 pm – Coffee Break

3:25 – 4:25 pm - The Impact of Blended Learning on Teaching EFL Employing Mobile Technologies

- ***Hiroyuki OBARI***

4:30 – 5:30 pm - Creating Computers that communicate like us

- **Ron *DI CARLANTONIO***

5:30 – 6:00 pm – Short Lecture and Tour of the Eye Tracking Facilities at Mitsue Links Corp.

- ***Toyohiro KANAYAMA***

6:00 pm – Meeting Closes with Thanks to all Attendees

6:15 – 7:30 pm – Dinner

MEETING THEME: COMPUTER ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

Defining Computer Assisted Language Learning

Computer-assisted language learning (CALL) is succinctly defined in a seminal work by Levy (1997: p. 1) as "the search for and study of applications of the computer in language teaching and learning". CALL embraces a wide range of technology applications and approaches to teaching and learning foreign languages, from the "traditional" drill-and-practice programs that characterized CALL in the 1960s and 1970s to more recent manifestations of CALL, e.g. as used in a virtual learning environment and Web-based distance learning. It also extends to the use of corpora and concordancers, interactive whiteboards, Computer-mediated communication (CMC), language learning in virtual worlds, and Mobile-assisted language learning (MALL).

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer-assisted_language_learning

Recent Developments in Technology and Language Learning

Literature in CALL has dealt with the effectiveness of past and current practices in the application of information and communication technology (ICT) in language education and the availability as well as capacities of current ICTs. Research suggests that existing literature on the effectiveness of technology uses in language education is very limited in four aspects: a) The number of systematic, well-designed empirical evaluative studies of the effects of technology uses in language learning is very small, b) the settings of instruction where the studies were conducted were limited to higher education and adult learners, c) the languages studied were limited to common foreign languages and English as a foreign or second language, and d) the experiments were often short-term and about one or two aspects of language learning (e.g., vocabulary or grammar). However the limited number of available studies shows a pattern of positive effects. They found technology-supported language learning is at least as effective as human teachers, if not more so.

Source: Zhao (2003). Recent Developments in Technology and Language Learning: A Literature Review and Mata- analysis. CALICO. 21 (1), *7 – 27.*

Abstracts

Title: An Eclectic Approach to Technology-Enhanced Language Learning (TELL)

Speaker: Kazunori Nozawa

Abstract: In response to the global demand for education and research diversity and utilization of emerging technology as a vehicle for effective foreign language teaching and learning, Technology Enhanced Language Learning (TELL) has been implemented as a part of the higher education system not only in Japan but other developed countries. This 'Show & Tell' presentation will be a good showcase of such innovative TELL practices in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) or Content-Based Learning (CBL) settings.

The presenter will briefly introduce the past decade of TELL experiences and discuss a variety of current eclectic approaches in his teaching EFL and professional courses in Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) style. CALL has been implemented with globally popular Web 2.0 technologies, Course Management Systems (CMS) such as Moodle and WordPress either for an undergraduate English Language Program (ELP) such as English as a General Academic Purposes (EGAP) in addition to a commercial e-Learning program (ALC NetAcademy 2) or post-graduate content programs (Studies in Language Education and Information Science IV (SLEIS4) and Intercultural Communication II (ICC2)). There are pros and cons for the implementation of TELL but the students have been enhancing their English proficiency and communication skills through both individualized active learning and small-group collaborative projected-based learning with those emerging technologies. Because the final success and failure of TELL depends on the existence of distinguished TELL practitioners in addition to well-designed e-Learning systems themselves with varied quality and quantity of on- and off-line tasks, what the best possible qualification standards for TELL practitioners or CALL facilitators are will also be discussed.

Title: Pronunciation and Professional Communication

Speaker: Dr. Ian Wilson

Abstract: English is the lingua franca of the global IT and business communities, and in many countries the ability to use English is an advantage that sets employees on a path to promotion and success. But, what is English? The language is spoken in so many different ways around the world - different vocabulary, different grammar, and certainly different pronunciation. Professional communication is about both the written and spoken word, but this talk will focus on speaking and pronunciation. In many science and engineering conferences now (including this one), non-native English speakers are speaking in English to other non-native English speakers. What are some important points for effective communication in such situations? How can a learner practice and evaluate his/her pronunciation without the need for a native listener judge?

The speaker will discuss previous research on this topic from the fields of CALL and pronunciation research. He will also demonstrate Praat software – open-source software for recording and acoustic analysis of sounds.

The Impact of Blended Learning on Teaching EFL Employing Mobile Technologies

Speaker: Hiroyuki Obari

Abstract: E-mobile learning technologies such as the iPhone, iPad, and others, are rapidly gaining popularity as an effective way to improve foreign language skills around the world. Mobile technologies have also transformed learning methodologies (Vinu, Sherimon & Krishnan, 2011). Mobile (M) -learning is motivating for learners to improve foreign language skills, as it offers a rich, informal, contextual, and ubiquitous learning environment. The main focus of this paper is to report on the use of digital storytelling, blog activities, online TED Talks, and Coursera to make CALL classes more dynamic and personalized for both teachers and learners. The presenter touches upon on several empirical studies that take advantage of the cyber community where 1) Learning Management Systems (LMS), 2) Blogs, 3) Digital Storytelling, and 4) Mobile Computing are all used to teach language and communication. The process of making a digital story helps students to promote better linguistic and paralinguistic skills, and enhances their vocabulary, improve writing, reading, and speaking efficiency.

The goal of this talk is to examine the effectiveness of blended learning in improving English language proficiency, including presentation skills with blogs and PowerPoint slides, online Ted Talk, and Coursera. For this purpose, data from recent empirical studies will be presented, including results from the Computerized Assessment System for English Communication (CASEC), and TOEIC which show that students' English proficiency improved after being exposed to blended learning. A questionnaire administered to students after their exposure to the activities indicated that they were satisfied with the online TED Talks and Coursera lectures and were motivated by the blended learning environment incorporating m-learning.

Creating Computers that communicate like us

Speaker: Ron DiCarlantonio

Abstract: With the growth of technology and smart devices in our lives, we not only need to know how to communicate with each other but how to communicate with the devices we use. To speak with a friend, to play a game or just to get things done, the language of "computers" has become key. But by 2013 weren't computers supposed to use our language and interact like us? Shouldn't we just be able to learn English or Japanese to get what we want, when we want it, in this almost ubiquitous society? If we are to believe Apple's Siri commercials then maybe it's true. Maybe we can already speak to our phones, cars and homes and get what we want. This talk will describe the goals many have had to make human-computer interaction (HCI) smarter and more natural, like speaking with a friend, and tell us where we really are, where we are going and how fast.

The speaker, Ron DiCarlantonio, has spent over 20 years striving to make computers more life-like, easier to speak with and more fun. Ron will share his thoughts on how the next generation of computers is using speech recognition, natural language understanding, gesture recognition, context-awareness and more to interact like us. Most importantly he will introduce the next key technology required to make communication more human-like, "goal-oriented conversations". Ron is the first to admit we are far from "HAL" or "Knight Rider" but through some fun and real examples, together we will look at the possibility of getting there.

Speaker Bios:

Kazunori Nozawa is Professor at College of Information Science and Engineering and Graduate School of Language Education and Information Science at Ritsumeikan University, Japan. He received B.Edu. from Utsunomiya University in Japan and M.A. from the University of Kansas in the U.S. He was Honorary Visiting Scholar at Bond University (1994-95), University of Queensland (1995) and Queensland University of Technology (2010-2011) in Australia and the University of British Columbia (2001-03) in Canada. He has taught JSL in the U.S. and has been teaching EFL in Japan since 1978. His main research areas are Computer Assisted Language Learning and Intercultural Communication. He was the co-founder and the first chair of JALT CALL SIG and CIEC FLER SIG and the founder and first president of JALT Toyohashi Chapter. He has been a co-editor for CALL-EJ Online (Currently CALL-EJ, http://callej.org/) since 1999 and also has been a reviewer for international conferences such as IADIS e-learning conferences since 2007 and GLoCALL conferences since 2008. He is Apple Distinguished Educator 2013. His major publications beside academic papers are: The Pickled Plum and the Japanese Sword: Japanese Wisdom Exemplified in History (1993) and Soichiro Honda: Endless Racer (1995) Japan International Cultural Exchange Foundation; Computa Riyono Gaikokugo Kyoiku: CAI no Doko to Jissen (Foreign Language Education Through Computers: Trend and Practice in CAI) (1993) Eichosha; Saishin Gaikokugo CALL no Kenkyu to Jissen (Recent Research and Practice of Foreign Language CALL) (2003) CIEC FL SIG; ICT o Tsukatta Gaikokugo Kyoiku (Foreign Language Education Using ICT) (2008) CIEC FLER SIG.

Ian Wilson is Professor and Director of the CLR Phonetics Lab at the University of Aizu. He has a PhD in Linguistics from the University of British Columbia, an MA in TEFL/TESL from the University of Birmingham, and a BMath from the University of Waterloo. He spent the 1990s in Japan working as a teacher-trainer for GEOS (the largest English conversation school in Japan at that time), and has worked at the University of Aizu since 2006. He was a regular in a 3-month English pronunciation television program that aired on both NHK Japan and NHK World in 2009 and 2010. Dr. Wilson uses ultrasound to study and teach the tongue's movements during speech. He also uses video to image lip and jaw movement, and he is interested in computer speech reading. He is co-author of a 2013 textbook called "Articulatory Phonetics", published by Wiley-Blackwell. He has published widely and has presented around the world in the fields of phonetics, second language acquisition, bilingualism, CALL, and dialect studies.

Dr. Hiroyuki Obari is Professor in the College of Economics at Aoyama Gakuin University and teaches part-time at Graduate School of Tokyo Institute of Technology. He obtained his M.A. in TESOL from Columbia University and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from University of Tsukuba. He specializes in CALL, Educational Technology, TESOL and e-learning. He has made many presentations at major international conferences such as EuroCALL, GloCALL, e-Learn, EdMedia, AILA, EduLearn, World CALL, ASIACALL, and ASIA TEFL. He was a visiting research fellow at University of Oxford (2007-2008,1998-1999).

http://raweb.jm.aoyama.ac.jp/aguhp/KgApp?kyoinId=ymksgyymggy

Ron is the CEO and founder of **iNAGO inc**., a Tokyo and Toronto based company creating Human-Computer Interaction innovations that are making technology come alive. Ron has always had a passion for turning innovation into real world products that touch people's daily lives. He began programming at age 14 and was inspired by movies showing how our lives would change with technology, in particular how computers would be integrated into everything we do, how they would be human-like! After graduating from Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Waterloo, he spent over 20 years developing and bringing living and thinking technology to market. His first opportunity was developing the virtual aquarium AQUAZONE, the product which drove the "digital pet" boom in Japan in the 90's. Ron then founded iNAGO Inc.in 1999 and developed a platform for intelligent and conversational software agents called netpeople. Ron realized that empowering computers to talk would require more than existing "Artificial Intelligence" technologies. It would require a platform that would allow developers and communication designers to build on together.

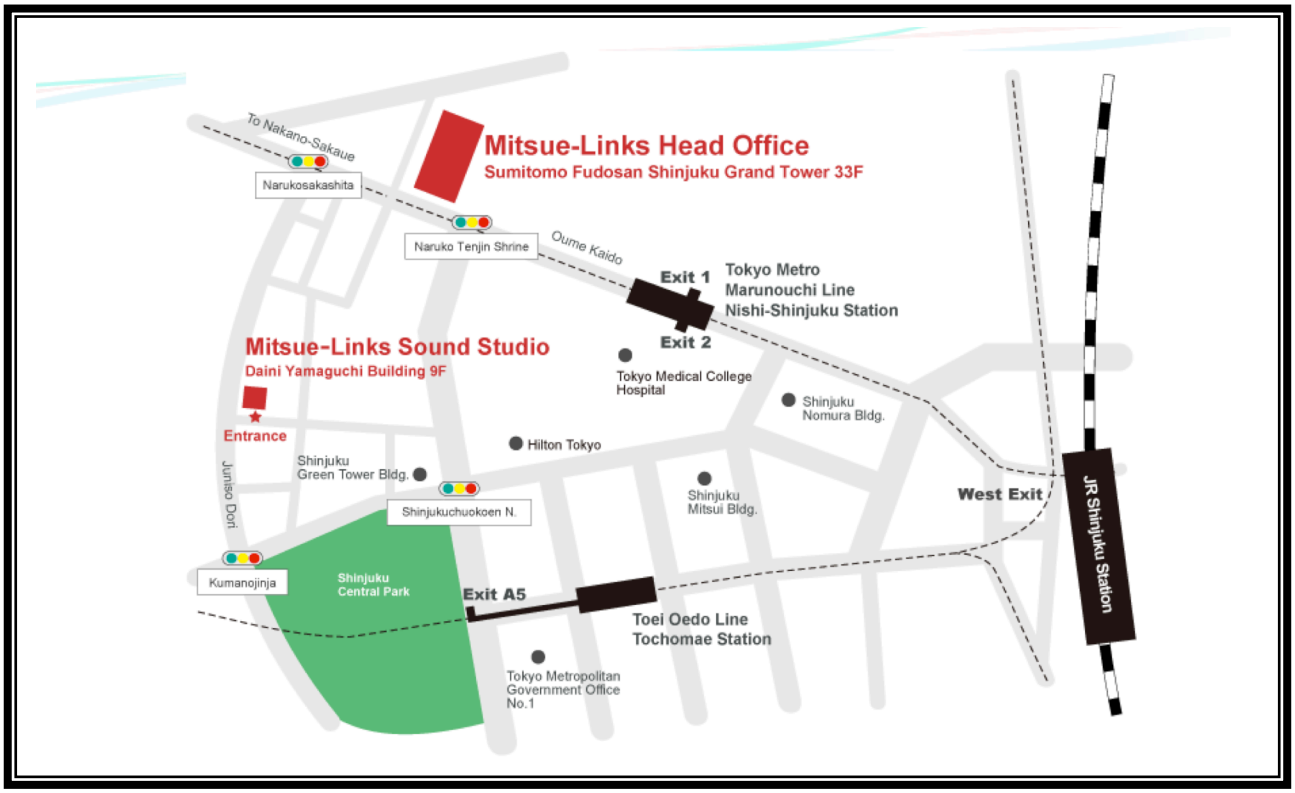
INAGO's netpeople has been used in everything from robots to smart phones, to enable a new smart communication interface. Today, with the growth of "smart devices", iNAGO and Ron are striving to bring the next generation of technology, talking technology, to everyone.

Our Host:

Toyohiro Kanayama is a UX evangelist at Mitsue-Links Co., Ltd. (UPA Bronze Sponsor). He has over 20 year software development experience, especially designing GUIs for engineering and business applications. He has been doing Usability/UX research since 2000, and has presented at a several international conferences (ECSQ2002, DESIGN IT! 2005 Pre-Conference, Technical Meeting on eLearning and Usability in Aizu University 2009, UX Masterclass in Chicago, UX Russia 2011 and USID2011 in India). In 2011, he was awarded for his activities involving the Japanese UX community and those in other countries. (UPA Service Award 2011)

Demonstration of Eye-Tracking Instruments at Mitsue-links Corp.

Mitsue-Links Corp. Head Office Access Map



Sumitomo Fudosan Shinjuku Grand Tower 33F, 8-17-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
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- A 3 minute walk from Exit 1 of Nishi-Shinjuku Station (served by the Marunouchi Line)
- A 6 minute walk from Exit 5 of Tochomae Station (served by the Toei Oedo Line)
- A 13 minute walk from the West Exit of Shinjuku Station (served by JR Lines, the Odakyu, Keio, and Seibu Lines, and the Toei Shinjuku Line)

From Nishi-Shinjuku Station on the Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line

Use Exit 1 of Nish-Shinjuku Station and then head towards Nakano-Sakaue on the Ome Kaido. After walking for around 260 meters, the 40-storey Sumitomo Fudosan Shinjuku Grand Tower building will be to your right. After entering the building, ride the “SHUTTLE 1-30” elevator to the 30th floor. When alighting at the 30th floor, turn to your right then ride one of the “30-39” elevators to Mitsue-Links' reception on the 33rd floor.

From Tochomae Station on the Toei Oedo Line

Use Exit A5 of Tochomae Station and then head towards Ome Kaido along Koen Dori. Upon teaching the Naruko Tenjin Shrine intersection, the 40-storey Sumitomo Fudosan Shinjuku Grand Tower building will be located across the street. After entering the building, ride the “SHUTTLE 1-30” elevator to the 30th floor. When alighting at the 30th floor, turn to your right then ride one of the “30-39” elevators to Mitsue-Links' reception on the 33rd floor.