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Preface

We are pleased to deliver the sixth volume of Buckeye East Asian Linguistics, though the publication project of this volume was delayed due to the COVID 19 pandemic. This volume is dedicated to Professor James H-Y. Tai, who taught Chinese linguistics at The Ohio State University’s Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) during 1986-1995, with his first year as a visiting professor. During his decade at OSU, he had advised two M.A. theses and twelve Ph.D. dissertations, in addition to serving on other theses and dissertations in DEALL and in Linguistics. Even after leaving OSU, Professor Tai had served as an adjunct faculty member on one M.A. thesis. His fondness for DEALL can also be seen in his establishment of an endowment, a James H-Y. Tai Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Fund, at the Department in 2018, as well as in making the initial donation in 2020 for the establishment of the Cantonese Gamluhk Fund to support DEALL’s offering of conversational Cantonese. The present volume for Professor Tai includes seven articles from current DEALL graduate students and past and present DEALL faculty members.

Professor Tai, a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Taiwan Linguistics Society (2010) and Distinguished Chair Professor at the National Chung Cheng University in Taiwan, came to DEALL from Southern Illinois University as a professor of Chinese linguistics in 1986. He was the senior founding member of the North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL) in 1989 and served as a special guest speaker at the 30th NACCL (https://u.osu.edu/naccl30/), held at The Ohio State University. Teaching in DEALL until 1995, he was invited to join National Chung Cheng University to establish the Graduate Institute of Linguistics as its founding Director. He later served as the Dean of the College of Humanities (1997-2002). His commitment to academia included serving as the Director-General of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Taiwan National Science Council (2002-2005), the President of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (2004), the Director of the Taiwan Center for Sign Linguistics, and the Director of the newly established Center for Innovative and Transdisciplinary Research on Aging at NCCU. He has also been on a number of editorial boards of academic journals, including as Associate Editor of the Journal of Chinese Linguistics (1976- ), Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Chinese Language Teachers Association (1987-1994), and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Chinese Language Teaching (2011-2017).

Professor Tai's early linguistic research was in the area of Chinese syntax/pragmatics. Since his return to Taiwan, he had extended into cognitive linguistics, sign linguistics, and issues pertaining to language and aging, three research areas that have been generously supported by prestigious government grants. His research interests are also reflected in his extensive presentations since 1969, and publications since 1971, thus spanning an entire half century of groundbreaking, influential scholarship, with 7 monographs and 90 articles. Today, at the age of 81, Professor Tai is still very energetically and enthusiastically seeking knowledge and sharing it with the world.
Finally, we send our gratitude to all of those who submitted articles to this volume, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, East Asian Studies Center, and the Knowledge Bank of The Ohio State University Libraries, which made this publication possible.

Mineharu Nakayama, Marjorie K. M. Chan, & Zhiguo Xie, 
Editors of the Buckeye East Asian Linguistics 6

**Buckeye East Asian Linguistics (BEAL)**

*Buckeye East Asian Linguistics* is an open-access online publication launched in 2015. It is dedicated to the empirical study of languages spoken in East Asian countries/regions, including cross-linguistic research that draws on East Asian languages. It is edited by the faculty members and graduate students in the East Asian linguistics community at The Ohio State University, and published by the Knowledge Bank, which is administered by OSU Libraries. It aims to help disseminate the most updated research of East Asian linguistics to the global scholarly community so as to encourage and foster the widest communication and collaboration among scholars interested in East Asian linguistics.