

IN LOVING MEMORY
of
PROFESSOR FENG-SHENG (FRANK) HSUEH

緬懷 薛鳳生 先生



(Professor Hsueh in his DEALL, OSU office, 1986. Photo provided by Daphne Hsueh)

Professor Feng-sheng (Frank) Hsueh was born on October 9 in 1931 in Pixian of Jiangsu province 江蘇省邳縣. He studied at the Xuzhou middle school 徐州中學, then moved to Taiwan with his parents in 1949. He continued his studies in Hsin-chu high school 新竹中學. He graduated in 1957 with a BA from the Department of English Literature at National Taiwan University 台灣大學, and then completed his MA in Classical Chinese Literature from National Taiwan University. In 1968, he earned his Ph.D. in linguistics from Indiana University. His Ph.D. dissertation topic was “*Phonology of Old Mandarin: A Structuralistic Approach*” (supervised by Dr. Fred W. Householder). Based on his dissertation, the book “*Phonology of Old Mandarin*” was published in 1975, and the Chinese edition <<中原音韻音位系統>> was published in 1990. Professor Hsueh’s analysis and many of his works on Chinese Phonology have been admired and praised by scholars including 王力先生. He not only made significant contributions to understanding of ancient Chinese syntax (e.g. 而 and 以) and phonology, but also to modern Chinese grammar. An example is his analysis of the function words 把 and 被, in the monograph he co-edited with James Tai: “*Functionalism and Chinese Grammar*” <<功能學說與中文文法>> Chinese Language Teachers Association, Monograph Series No. 1, 1989. His pioneering idea of analyzing Chinese language from the perspective of its own special features has had a great impact on the Chinese linguistics field and has become a classic approach for Chinese linguists, educator and learners.

Professor Hsueh was a great and profound educator. He taught at the University of Iowa in 1966, and in 1969 at National Taiwan University. Then, in 1970 he started his professorship at the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) at the Ohio State University (OSU), where he remained until he retired in 1995. He served as the DEALL chairman during 1986-1988 and 1991-1993. In 1993 he received the Bliss M. & Mildred A. Wiant Designated Professorship at OSU. After his retirement in 1995 he moved to California and taught briefly at Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

Since the 1980s Professor Hsueh has been active in academic exchange and networking with Chinese linguistics scholars worldwide, despite only limited access to mainland China at that time. He was at the frontier in promoting scholarly exchange among Chinese linguists and in networking among US and Chinese scholars. He also helped OSU to establish the Chinese visiting scholars program, which has brought many influential scholars to OSU.

Through Professor Hsueh's timeless efforts, many famous Chinese experts and scholars have gathered and visited the OSU DEALL for scholarly exchange and networking, and DEALL has earned a great reputation as one of the most prestigious centers for Chinese education and research in the US.



(Professor Hsueh with DEALL Professors, including Timothy Light 黎天慕, Yan-shuan Lao 勞延煊, Tien-yi Li 李田意, Chungming Chen and David Chen 陳穎. Photo provided by Daphne Hsueh.)

Professor Hsueh has also had great impact on Chinese teaching and learning in the US. The JCLTA was hosted by DEALL for 15 years, and from 1983 to 1989 Professor Hsueh was the editor-in-chief. During the

chairmanships of Professor Timothy Light and Professor Hsueh, the DEALL assembled an outstanding faculty team, including Marjorie K.M. Chan 陳潔雯, David Chen 陳穎, Xiaomei Chen 陳小眉, Kirk Denton 鄧騰克, Yan-shuan Lao 勞延煊, Tien-yi Li 李田意, Bob Sanders 沈德思, James H.Y. Tai 戴浩一, Galal Walker 吳偉克 and Timothy Wong 黃宗泰...etc. This team of outstanding faculty helped DEALL become one of the most well-rounded and prestigious destinations for Chinese language and literature scholarship in the U.S., attracting many graduate students. Professor Hsueh's tremendous contributions set a very high standard, as his former graduate students attempt to continue his legacy and play key roles in their fields throughout the world.

Throughout his teaching career of more than 30 years, Professor Hsueh has been a dear and wonderful friend and great mentor for his many students. He has touched the lives of his many friends and students.

We will miss you, Professor Hsueh!

薛先生：您五湖四海存知己，桃李滿天下，您的摯情與溫情，將永遠存在我們心中。謝謝您！

Respectfully,

OSU DEALL friends and students
(Summarized by Sue-mei Wu 吳素美)