**ISCA Distinguished Lecturer Travel Report #1**

Catherine T. Best (MARCS Institute, U Western Sydney, Australia)

Country: Taiwan

Universities: National Tsing Hua U (HsinChu City)

and National Chung Cheng U (Chia-Yi)

Dates: July 6-23, 2014

During my ISCA visit to Taiwan, I presented two talks (titles listed below; photos and announcement flyers were sent to ISCA a few months ago) to colleagues and PhD students in the Graduate Linguistics Institutes of two universities: National Tsing Hua University (NTHU) in the north, and National Chung Cheng University (NCCU) in the south. My primary hosts were Professor Yueh-Chin Chang (former department chair) and Associate Professor Feng-Fan Hsieh at NTHU, the top-ranked Graduate Institute in Linguistics in Taiwan. For the two days at NCCU, my hosts were the Dean of Humanities, Professor Jane S. Tsay, and the Director of the Linguistics Institute, Professor Jung-hsing Chang. At NTHU, I also was the invited commentator at a PhD research workshop, and had individual research discussions with several of the Linguistics PhD students. I also had several meetings with Professors Chang and Hsieh to discuss cross-institutional collaborations for research and for higher degree research (HDR: both MA-research and PhD) student research exchanges between NTHU and MARCS Institute. The latter discussions have already begun bearing fruit: my MARCS colleagues Dr Jason Shaw and Dr Donald Derrick are hosting Profs Chang and Hsieh for a joint research workshop at MARCS, Sydney, this week (November 24-25). The MARCS and NTHU team will use the opportunity to forge more formal links between the two research institutes. As a first step, during their visit to MARCS, Profs Chang and Hsieh will be participating in the research proposal confirmation defence of a MARCS PhD student of Shaw, Derrick and myself, Jia Ying. In addition, one NTHU PhD student I met with there and at LabPhon, Tokyo, and also recently in Los Angeles, Wei-Rong Chen, has just written to me that our discussions about one of his research projects have helped him to develop a research article that he will soon submit to *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*.

The visit was mutually productive. It provided formal and informal forums for research presentations and discussions with colleagues and students at the two institutes. It also opened the door for future trans-Pacific collaboration at several levels, in a way that is flexible so as to permit involvement of additional colleagues and HDR students at both institutions. For example, Professor Chang and I also had a productive research meeting with Professor Hui-chuan (Jennifer) Huang of the Academia Sinica (Taipei) regarding future collaboration on an articulatory and acoustic study of coronal consonant production in one of the Taiwanese aboriginal (Formosan) Austronesian languages, for comparison to parallel research being conducted in Australia with one of the critically endangered Austronesian languages spoken in an aboriginal community in the Northern Territory (NT). The talks and research opportunities, made possible with ISCA’s support, were well-received by these colleagues and their universities in Taiwan.

**NTHU** (July 9, 2014) “L1 and L2 influences on perception and production of stop voicing distinctions in both languages by early sequential, L2-dominant bilinguals”

**NTHU** (July 18, 2014): PhD student research seminar

**NCCU** (July 15, 2014): “Spoken word recognition across regional accent variation: Development in young children”