

The Third International Conference on Linguistics, Literature and Culture: ‘Mapping the Spectrum: Current and Emerging Perspectives in Linguistics, Literature and Culture’

Changing Englishes, changing cultures

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The Asian Corpus of English (ACE), of which the speaker is the project leader, has recently been officially released (<http://corpus.ied.edu.hk/ace/>). ACE comprises data of naturally occurring spoken English used as a lingua franca (ELF) among Asian multilinguals for whom English is an additional language. This presentation will take examples from ACE to investigate whether and in what ways the ELF that these Asian multilinguals from diverse and dynamic cultural and linguistic backgrounds use acts as a conduit for the expression of cultures other than those traditionally associated with native speakers of English. As the greatest number of current users of English are so-called non-native speakers of English who use English as a lingua franca – there, for example, more than 800 million such users of English in Asia alone – the presentation will consider the extent to which these Asian multilinguals have become owners of English and thus shaped and adapted it to reflect their own dynamic cultural experiences and values. The presentation will thus consider whether it is possible to say that this use of ELF shows English being used in non-Anglo-centric and non-Anglo-cultural ways and contexts, reflecting the shifting identities of its multilingual speakers. The presentation will conclude with a consideration of the implications of these changes for ELT in the region.

Andy Kirkpatrick is Professor in the Department of Languages and Linguistics at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia. He has lived and worked in many countries in East and Southeast Asia, including China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Myanmar and Singapore. He is the author of *English as a Lingua Franca in ASEAN: a multilingual model* (Hong Kong University Press). He is the editor of the *Routledge Handbook of World Englishes*. His most recent books are *English as an Asian Language: implications for language education*, co-edited with Roly Sussex and published by Springer, and *Chinese Rhetoric and Writing*, co-authored with Xu Zhichang and published by Parlor Press. He is founding and chief editor of the journal and book series *Multilingual Education*, published by Springer, and has recently been appointed editor-in-chief of the *Asia Journal of TEFL*. He is Director of the Asian Corpus of English (ACE) project.