

## **Conference Trip Report:**

### **The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Second Language Acquisition**

#### **Research in China**

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It was my great honor to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on SLA Research in China, which was held from 2<sup>nd</sup> November to 4<sup>th</sup> November in Qingdao, Shandong Province. This conference was organized by the China Association of Second Language Acquisition. It was hosted by the Ocean University of China and co-hosted by Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press and Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press. Encouraged by the good reputation of the organizer and hosts, I decided to join this conference to get a deeper insight into Second Language Acquisition and to obtain access to the expertise in relevant fields by exchanging ideas with the great minds in China.

The theme of this conference was “SLA Research in China in the New Era: Inter-disciplines and Multi-Languages.” More than 500 scholars attended. There were seven keynote speeches, 11 invited symposium speakers, nine paper sessions and three postgraduate forums. The keynote speech delivered by Prof. Roy Lyster, Professor Emeritus of Second Language Education at McGill University, was quite impressive. He introduced the role of oral corrective feedback in instructed second language acquisition. This talk identified different types of oral corrective feedback and focused on their relative effectiveness as attested by empirical classroom research. Then, it outlined a range of variables (e.g., instructional setting, discourse context, learner age) that moderate the effectiveness of each type of feedback. Finally, it proposed a means to maximize the potential of corrective feedback by using of a wide range of different types.

Excellent theories, brilliant ideas and relevant practices about second language acquisition were shared by a number of renowned educators, scholars and practitioners invited to this conference. Thus, the conference offered a precious opportunity to foster research, update knowledge and sharpen teaching skills. I benefitted a lot from this conference, and I believe it will inspire and enhance both my research and my teaching.