



## The 8<sup>th</sup> Lecture Series by Academia Sinica Academicians 第八屆中央研究院院士講座系列

Jointly Organized by  
Department of Chinese Language and Literature, and Office of Academic Links (China)  
Sponsored by  
T.T. Ng Chinese Language Research Centre, Institute of Chinese Studies

**Speaker:** Professor Jackson Tian Shin Sun, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica  
中央研究院人文及社會科學組 孫天心院士



**Title:** Evidentiality As Information-access Marking: Evidence from Tibetic

**Date:** Thursday, 28 March 2019

**Time:** 16:30 – 17:30 (tea reception at 16:00)

**Venue:** 2/F, Activities Room, Art Museum (East Wing)

**Registration:** <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/oalc/as 2019/>



### Speaker's Resume

Academician Jackson T.-S. Sun received his PhD degree in Linguistics from The University of California at Berkeley in 1993. He is a Distinguished Research Fellow at the Institute of Linguistics of the Academia Sinica. He has served as Vice Director and then Director of his home institute, and also taught at the Department of Chinese at the National Tsing Hua University, the Department of Ethnology at the National Chengchi University, and the Department of Chinese at the National Taiwan Normal University. He is internationally recognized for his pioneering documentation and historical comparative work on Tibeto-Burman, and secondarily Austroasiatic, languages. Over the three decades of his employment at the academy, he has persistently applied an empirical, field-based approach to investigating a host of languages in the Sino-Tibetan family, emphasizing the discovery and description of languages and linguistic phenomena new to science. In 2018, he was elected an academician of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica.

孫天心院士於 1993 年自美國柏克萊加州大學語言學系取得博士學位，現為中央研究院語言所特聘研究員。曾任中研院語言學研究所副所長及所長職務，並先後任職於國立清華大學中國語文學系、國立政治大學民族學系、國立台灣師範大學國文學系。他的專長領域為漢藏語共時結構及歷史演變，兼及南亞語研究。在中研院服務三十餘年來，堅持實證調查的研究取向，針對漢藏語系二十餘種現代藏緬語進行深入研究，尤其致力於未知語言的記錄與重要現象的發掘。於 2018 年獲選為中研院第 32 屆人文及社會科學組院士。

### Evidentiality As Information-access Marking: Evidence from Tibetic

Evidentiality, a cross-linguistically common category of verbal inflection, is classically defined as 'obligatory linguistic marking of information source' (e.g. Aikhenvald 2004). On a competing view (Tournadre and LaPolla 2014), evidentiality is construed rather in terms of cognitive access. In this talk, I draw on primary data from Takhog, a Tibetic language of Sichuan with an elaborate set of evidential distinctions marked consistently by a suffixal paradigm, to demonstrate that (a) the egophoric or performative (Oswalt 1986) evidential is an integral component in the Tibetic evidential system, and (b) the full intricacies of Takhog evidentials can be intuitively analyzed in terms of cognitive access to information, with only minimal reference to information channels.

