Piakandatu ami
Dr. Howard P. McKaughan
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Dr. Howard P. McKaughan

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and

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Preface

If the papers in this volume share a common theme, it would be *linguistic connections across an ocean* (after the title of Gonzalez & Thomas 1981). The papers deal primarily with languages and institutions ranging from Southeast Asia at the Pacific basin’s western edge to Canada, the United States, and Mexico—on the same ocean’s eastern side. Many other languages and the organizations where they are studied, located within the Pacific, are also discussed. Of course, this geographic arrangement follows the career of the book’s honoree, who worked in Mexico (primarily in the late 1940s), the Philippines (during most of the 1950s and again several times in the early 1990s), Papua New Guinea (early 1960s), Hawai’i (1963 to 1987), Thailand (1988 to 1990), and Sabah, Malaysia (1996 to present).

The first part of this volume’s title, *Piakandatu ami Dr. Howard P. McKaughan*, means roughly ‘in honor of’ in Iranun, the language that McKaughan has worked on for the past decade or so in Sabah, Malaysia. One of our title ideas was to translate *Parangal kay* (in Tagalog) or *Parangal cang* (in Kapampangan) used in the title of previous volumes published by the Linguistic Society of the Philippines (LSP) or in the subtitle of a recent volume published jointly by the LSP and SIL Philippines (Bautista et al. 2000; Gonzalez 1973; Liao & Rubino 2005). We looked for a title in Maranao (the Philippine language that the honoree studied earlier in his career) but found the current one, with a particularly appropriate double meaning. According to Datu Ismail bin Sidik, by way of Sean Conklin, *piakandatu* means either the gloss listed above or ‘honoring someone by giving the title of datu’. (See also Blust, this volume, for the broader uses and meanings of this title in much of Malayo-Polynesian.)

The idea for undertaking this project sprang from a conversation between Dr. J. Stephen Quakenbush and the first editor in early 2004 while the latter was visiting SIL Philippines. Steve mentioned that McKaughan, although retired from the University of Hawai‘i, was still working on Iranun, in Sabah. In early 2006, the two editors, who knew each other from previous conferences, had a couple of conversations during the Tenth International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics (in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines). We discussed co-editing such a volume. Since then, Steve has been vital to the project once more in securing approval from the boards of the Linguistic Society of the Philippines and SIL Philippines to publish the book. A preliminary single volume with several of the articles was presented, as a surprise, during the Malaysian Indigenous Peoples’ Conference on Education, in April 2007, in Kota Belud, Sabah.

In the call for contributions we invited linguists—broadly defined—whose work has been influenced by the honoree. We called for both short contributions and full analytical papers. Both types are represented in this volume. We wrote in the call (recollecting a conversation with Vivian Van Wynen):

An example of the former might include the recent anecdote by another first-wave member of SIL-Philippines whom Howard visited at her allocation in Mindanao during the early 1950s. The field workers reported that the language they were working on had some seven vowel phonemes. Because this was the first language in the Philippines that he had heard of with this many vowels, Howard spent several days re-checking the preliminary data.
We also used the idea of investigating the clitic system of Maranao (Kaufman, this volume) as an example of the latter, longer type of contribution. “In all,” we concluded, “the papers should chronicle Howard’s career as linguist.” Indeed, the topics covered here cover a wide range of linguistic areas (each of these followed in parentheses by the authors who contributed papers mainly in each discipline):

- collaboration (Lincoln, Loving, Macaraya, Pike)
- corpora (Bautista, Lincoln)
- cultural history (Blust, Lincoln, Pugh-Kitingan, Reid, Smith)
- ethnography (R. Conklin, Lincoln, Reid, Rubino, Smith)
- establishing and administering institutions (Bender, Benton, Grace, Kess, Lynip, Newell, Pallesen, Pike, Ramos, Rensch, Ruch, Schütz, Tehan et al., Thompson & Thompson)
- field research (Ashley & Ashley, Loving, Macaraya, Pike, Reid, Rensch, Ruch, Thomas, Smith)
- historiography (Billings, Boutin, Kroeger, Tehan et al.)
- language change (Blust, S. Conklin, Kaufman, Lincoln, Reid, Thompson & Thompson)
- language documentation and development (Ashley & Ashley, Pike, Rose, Smith)
- mentoring (Bender, Benton, Elkins, Kess, Loving, Newell, Pallesen, Schütz, Tehan et al., Thomas, Thompson & Thompson)
- minority languages (Ashley & Ashley, Hohulin & Burquest, Hurlbut, Lincoln, Loving, Pike, Reid, Rensch, Ruch, Schütz, Smith, Sommer, Thomas, Thompson & Thompson)
- morphology (Billings, Boutin, Franklin, Himes, Hohulin & Burquest, Kaufman, Lincoln, Reid, Sommer, Thompson & Thompson)
- phonology (Benton, Boutin, Burkhardt, Forman, Franklin, Hurlbut, Kaufman, Reid, Ruch, Thompson & Thompson)
- poetics (Lynip, Rubino, Smith)
- promoting linguistics as a profession (Blust, Grace, Lynip, Newell)
- publication (Bender, Benton, Grace, Hsu, Loving, Lynip, Macaraya, Pike, Ramos, Rensch, Schütz, Smith, Thompson & Thompson)
- the sociology of language (Bautista, Forman, Lincoln, Rubino, Smith)
- syntax and typology (Billings, Donohue, Franklin, Kaufman, Kroeger)
- teaching languages (Benton, Ramos, Schütz, Smith)
- translation (Ashley & Ashley, Elkins, Loving)
- vocabulary and lexicography (Ashley & Ashley, S. Conklin, Hsu, Lincoln, Macaraya, Pike, Ramos, Schütz, Thompson & Thompson)

By our criteria, the area discussed in the most number of papers is establishing and administering institutions. In fact, McKaughan had a hand in setting up linguistics
departments at three institutions: the University of Hawai‘i (discussed by several authors) and Payap University (Tehan et al.).

We trust that this book is a fitting tribute to a linguist who has spent an impressive career in Pacific linguistics.

— Puli, Nantou Hsien, Taiwan
— Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

References


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Rex Johnson
Academic Publications
SIL Philippines
The honoree’s publications


