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Abstract

Politeness and Other-initiated Repair in Japanese Contact Situations

YOSHINAGA, Mioko

The purpose of this paper is to analyze Other-Initiate Repair in Japanese contact situations from the viewpoint of politeness. Other-Initiate Repair (OIR) is an action indicating the conversational interlocutor's utterance was problematic and therefore may threaten participants' face. This paper discusses politeness strategies which compensate for the threat caused by OIR. This paper also covers situations where OIR itself functions as a politeness strategy and where OIR is accomplished without any politeness strategies.

Reexamining Japanese Indirect Passives from a Cross-linguistic Perspective

SMITH, Tomoko Yamashita

This study reexamines Japanese indirect passives using cross-linguistic data. Two types of indirect passives, the “possessive passive” and the “intransitive passive” are discussed, as is the notion of adversity that is often expressed or implied by them. The possessive passive type is found to exist in many other languages and so it appears not uncommon cross-linguistically. As for the intransitive type, there are two sub-types, “personal” and “impersonal”; the personal type seems to be rare, for out of the more than fifty languages examined, it is only found in Japanese and Indonesian. The impersonal type, on the other hand, is found in some European languages, for example, and would appear to be more common. Lastly, adversity is shown to be expressed or implied not only by indirect passives but also by direct passives in many languages and, therefore, it is judged to be a characteristic of passive constructions in general.

Abstract

Internationally Qualified Education at Japanese Universities: Seeking Quality Through Their Internationalization and Faculty Development

ARIKAWA, Tomoko

This paper examined the possibilities of internationally qualified education at Japanese universities in today's rapidly changing global world as well as inside Japan. This paper first explained what "internationally qualified education" is expected to achieve in higher educational institutions.

It then reviewed the history of Japanese universities, which came to be perceived as research oriented institutions. It also reviewed the past literature on the internationalization of Japanese higher education and examined the challenges facing Japanese universities especially in education.

This paper also reviewed the history of faculty development activities at Japanese universities and studied why so called "FD" has become so popular today. It then studied the challenges of these FD activities for Japanese universities in light of internationalization. Through these discussions, this paper examined problems and challenges for Japanese universities seeking internationally qualified education.

**Core University Program between Osaka University and
Vietnam National University, Hanoi
—The 6th General Seminar in Kumamoto—**

IKE, Michihiko, SODA, Satoshi, SEI, Kazunari, and KUWAHATA, Takako

Core University Program between Osaka University and Vietnam National University, Hanoi has been executed since 1999. The purpose of this program is progress of environmental science and technology for global environment by interchange between Japanese and Vietnamese researchers. The 6th general seminar of this program was held in Kumamoto in 2006. There were 55 oral presentations and more than 100 people, including 28 Vietnamese researchers/students and 6 Vietnamese international students studying in Japan, participated in the seminar. We visited Minamata Disease Museum as commemoration of the origin of pollution in Japan and Minamata Eco-town as an advanced approach for construction of the recycle-oriented society. A lot of academic results have been obtained by this project. In addition, the number of Vietnamese international students of Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University is increasing as an indirect effect of the program.