

Cornucopia: The Linguistic Society of the Philippines at 50

Alejandro S. Bernardo

President, Linguistic Society of the Philippines

Associate Professor, University of Santo Tomas

1. Introduction

Seven days before the first spaceflight landed the first two people on the moon, the Linguistic Society of the Philippines (LSP henceforth) was born and, since then, it has grown to be the most prestigious professional organization of linguists and language practitioners in the country. Indeed LSP, "...has contributed to the professionalization of the discipline of linguistics and its allied sub-disciplines... has built up a network of linguists at the national and international levels... has help shaped national policy on language education in very important ways" (Bautista, 1989, p.49). These words of Bautista echo that LSP, from its humble beginnings 50 years ago to what it is now, remains to be an influential and a significant professional circle that advances linguistics and its hyphenated fields in a multilingual nation, the Philippines.

LSP, in its first year of inception, dreamt rather small, but from a simple aspiration, it has soared to a greater cause embodied in its six-fold mission of (1) striving for the advancement of the scientific study of language, including basic research, particularly on languages in the Philippine context; (2) engaging in research and participating in discussions that inform language policies; (3) publishing and disseminating the results of original scientific studies undertaken and communicating with organizations within and outside the Philippines engaged in such pursuit; (4) conducting training programs on language and language-related topics both at pre-service and in-service levels locally and nationally; (5) holding conferences at the local, regional, national, and international levels in matters relating to linguistics, language education and their allied disciplines; and (6) encouraging the participation of members of the society at local, regional, national, and international seminars, workshops, meetings, conferences on linguistics, language, and language education to broaden their insights and promote their professional growth.

2. LSP's Early Beginnings

LSP's beginning is a very interesting story worth retelling. In 1968 in Hawaii, two prominent Filipino linguists, Bonifacio P. Sibayan of the then Philippine Normal College and Ernesto A. Constantino of the University of the Philippines, started a conversation about putting up a Philippine-based professional organization for linguists whose main objective was to promote research on Philippine languages. Their dream was realized when LSP was formally organized on July 13, 1969, seven days before Apollo 11 landed on the moon. LSP, a legitimate professional and non-government organization, was officially recognized by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on December 17 of the same year.

The inaugural LSP officers were intellectual giants and names to reckon with. These are Teodoro A. Llamzon (President, Ateneo de Manila University), Bonifacio P. Sibayan (Vice-President, Philippine Normal College), Edilberto P. Dagot (Secretary, Philippine Normal College), and Fe T. Otones (Treasurer, Philippine Normal College). The members of the Executive Committee were Rosalina M. Goulet (University of the Philippines), J. Thomas Lyman (Summer Institute of Linguistics), and Maximo Ramos (University of the East). Committee members were

appointed as well, namely, Teodoro A. Llamzon for Publications, Ricardo Cutiongco (San Beda College, for Membership), Cesar Hidalgo (University of the Philippines, for Research), Fe Aldave-Yap (Institute of National Language, for Professional Meetings) and Alejandro Casambre (University of the Philippines, for Professional Relations). It should be noted that Br. Andrew B. Gonzalez, FSC (De la Salle University), former Secretary of the Department of Education Culture and Sports (DECS), served as LSP's Executive Secretary for 17 years and provided a home for the LSP Secretariat at the De la Salle University for a long time.

Despite the absence of a physical office after the passing on of Br. Andrew, LSP continued to function through the leadership of its officers and its former presidents namely:

- 1969 – 1972: Teodoro A. Llamzon (ADMU)
- 1973 – 1985: Bonifacio P. Sibayan (PNU, President Emeritus in 1986)
- 1986 – 1987: Ponciano B.P. Pineda (Institute of National Language)
- 1987 – 1988: Emy M. Pascasio (ADMU)
- 1988 – 1989: Fe T. Otañes (PNU)
- 1989 – 1990: Nelly I. Cubar (UP)
- 1990 – 1991: Wilfredo L. Alberca (PUP)
- 1991 – 1992: Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (DLSU)
- 1992 – 1993: Emma S. Castillo (PNU)
- 1993 – 1995: Emy M. Pascasio (ADMU)
- 1995 – 1996: Araceli C. Hidalgo (UP)
- 1996 – 1997: Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (DLSU)
- 1997 – 1998: Edilberta C. Bala (PNU)
- 1998 – 2000: Emy M. Pascasio (ADMU)
- 2000 – 2002: Anna Ma. Gloria S. Ward (UST)
- 2003 – 2006: Angela P. Sarile (UP)
- 2006 – 2008: Isabel P. Martin (ADMU)
- 2008 – 2010: Danilo T. Dayag (DLSU)
- 2010 – 2012: Marilu R. Madrunio (UST)
- 2012 – 2015: Rochelle Irene G. Lucas (DLSU)
- 2015 – 2018: Shirley N. Dita (DLSU)

3. Lectures, Conferences, and Trainings

One of the first projects LSP participated in was the Ateneo de Manila University and Philippine Normal College (ADMU-PNC) Linguistics Consortium. Out of the first cohort, 11 were able to write their dissertations. The Pacific Linguistics Publication Series of the Australian National University published some of these dissertations. Graduates of the ADMU-PNC linguistics consortium include Gloria Chan, Ma. Lourdes Bautista, Casilda Luzares, and Teresita Rafael. Following the ADMU-PNC consortium was the ADMU-PNC-DLSU consortium, this time, for a PhD in Bilingual Education. Nine students were able to produce their dissertations.

In 1969, LSP started offering training programs of various sorts. Conducted starting 1970 and institutionalized in 1979, week or month-long summer workshops on different topics, e.g., translation, language teaching, preparation of bilingual teaching materials, language testing, teaching the macroskills, and many more were held. These summer-workshops were staged in different universities in Cebu, Manila, and Davao and facilitated by renowned foreign scholars, e.g., Clifford Prator, John Sinclair, Charles Ferguson, Howard McKaughan, Mildred Larsen, Curtis

McFarland, Lawrence Reid, William Hall and those sent by the United States Information Agency and the British Council. Workshops for senior linguists, often held in October, began in 1973, while summer workshops on translation facilitated by the Summer Institute of Linguistics started in 1986. In addition, every year in May, annual conventions were held. These conventions also served as the venue for the launch of LSP's publications.

Bautista (1989) and Pascacio (2000) in their recollection of the 20 years and 30 years of LSP, respectively, provide lists of all the lectures, conferences, workshops from 1969 to 1999. For example, in 1990, the theme was "Recent Research on Language." In 1992, 1993 and 1996, the themes were "Intellectualization of Filipino: Directions," "Current Research in Applied Linguistics," and "Uses of Linguistics in the Philippines," respectively. In 1995, the conference theme was "Linguistics and Language Teaching," while in 1997, the annual convention revolved around "Applied Linguistics: Focus on Second Language Learning and Teaching." The 30th Anniversary celebration in 2000 was anchored on the theme English, Filipino and other Languages at the Crossroads: Facing the Challenges of the New Millennium."

From 2000 until 2018, annual conventions dubbed as the LSP National Conference and General Meeting (LSP-NCGM) were held. The themes of the past NCGMs are as follows:

- 2001: Functional Literacy in a Multilingual Context
- 2010: First Languages First: Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) in the Philippines
- 2011: First Languages First: Mother Tongues and National Development
- 2014: Language Education in the Philippines
- 2015: Language and Intelligibility
- 2016: Asianization of English and English Language Teaching
- 2017: Nurturing Literacy and Learning through Language Research
- 2018: Promoting Linguistic Diversity in Teaching, Learning, and Research

There were occasions when international conferences, instead of the usual NCGMs, were held or co-hosted. The first international conference hosted by LSP was in 2002 held at the Manila Midtown Hotel, Ermita Manila. "The theme was Applied Linguistics and Language Education: Theory and Practice." The other international conferences were:

- 2006: The Tenth International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics, Puerto Princesa Palawan
- 2008: World Englishes and Second Language Learning and Teaching, University of Santo Tomas, Manila
- 2009: 15th Conference of the International Association for World Englishes (IAWE), Cebu City
- 2015: The 9th Annual Free Linguistics Conference (FLC), De La Salle University, Manila

On March 7-9, 2019, LSP held another international conference dubbed as the 2019 LSPIC where the 50 years of linguistics in the Philippines was the main agendum. The said conference held at the De La Salle University, the home of LSP for many years, aimed at celebrating the 50th foundation anniversary of the organization and the golden era of Philippine linguistics. LSPIC 2019 was attended by close to 300 participants. The keynote lecture was delivered by Edgar W. Schneider (University of Regensburg, Germany). Ee Ling Low (National Institute of Education,

Singapore), David Gil (The Max Planck Institute), Marilu R. Madrunio (University of Santo Tomas, Philippines) were the plenary speakers. Workshop facilitators include Andrew Moody (University of Macau), Loy Lising (Macquarie University, Australia), Aiden Yeh (Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages, Taiwan), Jong-bok Kim (Kyung Hee University, Korea), Aurelio Vilbar (University of the Philippines – Cebu), Jesus Federico Hernandez (University of the Philippines – Diliman). A special panel on the state of linguistics in Asia was also convened. The speakers were Anne Pakir (National University of Singapore), Jong-bok Kim, Andrew Moody, and Shirley Dita (De La Salle University).

Aside for the usual free lectures, LSP also organizes memorial lectures in honor of Emy M. Pascacio (Ateneo de Manila University) who is known for bilingualism and bilingual education in the Philippines. The EMP memorial lecture was established on September 22, 2007 and is co-managed with the Ateneo De Manila University English Department. The former EMP lecturers are:

9th EMP Memorial Lecture, 2019

Edmundo Litton

“Promoting language diversity in the Philippines: Lessons learned by a Filipino migrant in the USA”

8th EMP Memorial Lecture, 2017

Margarita Felipe Fajardo

“Tensions in critical literacy pedagogy: Case studies of three college teachers in the Philippines”

7th EMP Memorial Lecture, 2015

Maria Luz Elena N. Canilao

“The use of English in multilingual classrooms: Frameworks, features, and factors”

6th EMP Memorial Lecture, 2013

Marianne Rachel G. Perfecto

“Contextual factors in teacher decision making: Extending the Woods Model”

5th EMP Memorial Lecture, 2012

Paolo Niño Valdez

“Investigating identity in globalized worlds: Impacts for language teaching”

Priscilla Angela T. Cruz

“Constructing identities through language: Text analysis and a ‘nationalist’ pedagogy”

4th EMP Memorial Lecture (incorporated in the 2010 LSP-NCGM), 2010

Ricardo Ma. Duran Nolasco

“Ang hamon ng MTB-MLE sa mga edukador ng Pilipinas”

3rd EMP Memorial Lecture, 2009

Ma. Milagros C. Laurel

“Textese one more time: Further explorations into text message”

2nd EMP Memorial Lecture (Ateneo de Manila University, Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino, Linguistic Society of the Philippines, Inc.), 2008

Napoleon Imperial (NEDA)

“Reflections on the Philippine languages-in-education issue”

Ms. Rose Camacam and Ms. Norma Duguang

“Improving student competence in Filipino and English: The Lubuagan experience”

1st EMP Memorial Lecture, 2007

Allan Benedict Bernardo

“1+1=Magellan, 2+2=Lapu-Lapu: Filipino bilinguals’ cognitive processing of number facts”

The other memorial lecture LSP recently organized is the Danilo T. Dayag (DTD) Memorial Lecture. The DTD Memorial Lecture was established on March 17, 2016 and is managed by the Department of English and Applied Linguistics (DEAL), Br. Andrew Gonzalez FSC College of Education (BAGCED), De La Salle University and the Linguistic Society of the Philippines. The DTD lecture honors a distinguished scholar, linguist, mentor, and longtime LSP board member and PJJL editor. The 2019 DTD Lecturer is a mentee of Dr. Dayag, Teresita D. Tajolosa of Mont Michel School. Her lecture was titled “To be or not to be? A Question of Resilience among Speakers of Batak, a Critically Endangered Philippine Language.” The other former DTD lecturers are:

3rd DTD Memorial Lecture, 2018

Eden Regala-Flores

“The Case of the Missing Full Stops in Text Messages: A Pinoy Adaptation”

2nd DTD Memorial Lecture, 2017

Paulina M. Gocheco

“Pronominal Choice: A Reflection of Culture and Persuasion in Philippine Political Campaign Discourse”

1st DTD Memorial Lecture, 2016

Arceli M. Amarles

“Multilingualism, Multilingual Education, and the English Language: Voices of Public School Teachers”

4. Professorial Chairs

Two professorial chairs in linguistics were established by LSP to honor illustrious teachers, writers, scholars, school administrators and, above all, staunch advocates of excellence.

The Bonifacio P. Sibayan (BPS) Distinguished Professorial Chair in Applied Linguistics was established on February 1, 1991 in time for the 75th birthday of BPS. The first chair holder was Emma S. Castillo whose paper delved into the topic “State of the Art: Communication Strategies.” The other BPS Professorial Chair Holders are the following:

Melchor Artago Coronel Tatlonghari

Professorial Chair Holder 2017

Minimizing "Otherization" Practices in the Language Classroom

Maria Antoinette C. Montealegre

Professorial Chair Holder 2016

“Language and Literature Teachers in the 21st Century Conversation:
Inputs to Designing a 21st Century Skills-Based Language and
Literature Teacher Education Program”

Nilda R. Sunga

Professorial Chair Holder 2014

“Theory cum practice: A Good Blend in Language Teaching”

Isabel P. Martin

Professorial Chair Holder 2013

“Is Justice Lost in Translation?: Court Interpreting in the Philippines”

Gail Forey

Professorial Chair Holder 2012

“Researching Language as a Meaning-making Resource in the Offshore Outsourcing
Industry in the Philippines”

Peter Craig Collins

Professorial Chair Holder 2011

“Developments in the Verbal System of Philippine English and Other World Englishes”

Nemah Hermosa

Professorial Chair Holder 2010

“Across Texts and beyond Content: A Closer Look at Reading Comprehension”

Diane E. Dekker

Professorial Chair Holder 2009

“MLE in the Philippines – Possible Implementation Strategies”

Dina S. Ocampo

Professorial Chair Holder 2008

“Literacy Development among Filipino Children”

Cecilia M. Mendiola

Professorial Chair Holder 2007

“Online/Offline Processing of Idioms by ESL Learners”

Dinah F. Mindo

Professorial Chair Holder 2006

“The English Language Proficiency Program of Elementary School Teachers in Region III”

Lourdes G. Tayao

Professorial Chair Holder 2005

“A Postscript to Teacher Training”

Clemencia C. Espiritu

Professorial Chair Holder 2004

“Edukasyong Pangwika sa Filipino: Pagsulong at Tunguhin”

Ma. Luz C. Vilches

Professorial Chair Holder 2003

“Managing Innovation in Language Education: Implications for the Change Agent”

Edilberta C. Bala

Professorial Chair Holder 2002

“Meeting Language Testing Needs of Teachers”

Andrew Gonzalez, FSC

Professorial Chair Holder 2001

“Language Projects at DECS: Some Insights through Linguistic Eyes”

Ricardo Ma. Nolasco

Professorial Chair Holder 2000

“Transitivity and Ergativity in a Philippine Language”

Allan Benedict Bernardo

Professorial Chair Holder 1999

“Literacy, Metalinguistics, and Decontextualized Thought: Postscript to *Literacy and the Mind*”

Ma. Clara V. Ravina

Professorial Chair Holder 1998

“Error Analysis and Interlanguage Revisited”

Br. Andrew Gonzalez, FSC

Professorial Chair Holder 1997

“The Politics of Language: Ethnicity and Languages in the Philippines”

Teodoro A. Llamzon

Professorial Chair Holder 1996

“TESL Targets in 1996“

Araceli C. Hidalgo

Professorial Chair Holder 1995

“Thoughts from the Left on English language Teaching”

Emy M. Pascasio

Professorial Chair Holder 1994

“Variables Affecting the Performance of Second Language Learners in Written English”

Fe T. Otones

Professorial Chair Holder 1993

“Stylistics and the Teaching of Poetry”

Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista

Professorial Chair Holder 1992

“Classroom Observation Studies in a Manila University: Some Lessons Learned, Some Lessons yet to Learn”

The second professorial chair LSP established was in partnership with De La Salle University - the Br. Andrew B. Gonzalez FSC Distinguished Professorial Chair in Linguistics and Language Education, which was formally inaugurated on February 29, 1996, the 56th birthday of Br. Andrew, a renowned Filipino linguist and educator. The very first BAG chair holder was Bonifacio P. Sibayan. His lecture revolved around the topic “To Be Globally Competitive with Intellectualized Filipino and English.”

The other former BAG professorial chair holders are the following:

Ariane Macalinga Borlongan

Professorial Chair Holder 2019

“Reimagining Br. Andrew Gonzalez on Philippine English”

Aldrin P. Lee

Professorial Chair Holder 2018

“Redressing Linguicism in the Philippines: A Linguistic Human Rights (LHR)-Based Approach”

Lawrence A. Reid

Professorial Chair Holder 2016

“Revisiting the Position of Philippine Languages in the Austronesian Family”

Loy M. Lising

Professorial Chair Holder 2015

“The linguistic ideologies of multilingualism and skilled migration: The case of Filipino skilled migrants in the Australian diaspora”

Marilu R. Madrunio

Professorial Chair Holder 2013

“Language, power, and control in Philippine courtroom discourse”

James Martin

Professorial Chair Holder 2012

“Modelling and mentoring: The yin and yang of teaching and learning from home through school”

William Hall

Professorial Chair Holder 2011

“New trends in Philippine language assessment and documentation”

Kingsley Bolton

Professorial Chair Holder 2010

“Remembering Br. Andrew”

Ruanni F. Tupas

Professorial Chair Holder 2009

“(Re)discovering Philippine applied linguistics: Language and secessionism in Muslim Mindanao”

Resty M. Cena

Professorial Chair Holder 2008

“Tagalog: Driving on the left side of the road”

Charles Mann

Professorial Chair Holder 2007

“Implementing Nigeria’s language education policy: The gap between theory and practice”

Hsiu-chuan Liao

Professorial Chair Holder 2006

“Philippine linguistics: The state of the art 1981-2005”

David Paul R. Zorc

Professorial Chair Holder 2005

“The state and directions of Philippine linguistics and language study”

Emma S. Castillo

Professorial Chair Holder 2004

“CACALLA as both a language teaching and a language testing framework”

Estefania S. de Guzman

Professorial Chair Holder 2003

“Is the medium of instruction debate in the Philippines closing in?”

J. Stephen Quakenbush

Professorial Chair Holder 2002

“Philippine linguistics from an SIL perspective: Trends and prospects”

Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista

Professorial Chair Holder 2001

“Studies of Philippine English: Implications for language teaching”

Teodoro A. Llamzon

Professorial Chair Holder 2000

“An update on the intellectualization of Filipino”

Emy M. Pascasio

Professorial Chair Holder 1999

“A comparison of the correlates of the English and the Filipino language proficiency tests for college freshmen”

Leonard Newell

Professorial Chair Holder 1998

“The nature of a learner’s dictionary”

Curtis D. McFarland

Professorial Chair Holder 1997

“English enrichment of Filipino”

5. Publications

It should be noted that “the production of knowledge in linguistics in the Philippines is largely the preoccupation of LSP, the only professional organization of linguists and language researchers in the country” (Dayag & Dita, 2012, p.1). Thus, from a single issue featuring eight full papers and three book reviews released in 1970, the Philippine Journal of Linguistics (PJL), the official journal of LSP, has reached its 50th volume, which helps LSP realize its mission of contributing to the body of knowledge through research publications.

PJL, for the past 50 years, has served as the official organ of the Linguistic Society of the Philippines. It publishes original studies in descriptive, comparative, historical, and areal linguistics. Although its primary interest is in linguistic theory, it also publishes papers on the application of theory to language teaching, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and anthropological linguistics.

PJL is considered to be a top journal on Philippine linguistics and has featured landmark studies and researches both by local and foreign academics. In fact, it may be reckoned that PJL was awarded as the best journal for 1980-1982 and the bestselling social science journal in 2018 by the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC).

Initially, PJL released two issues per year, one in June and one in December. However, beginning 2008 only one volume was printed every year.

PJL editorship, which remains *pro bono*, was under the following:

1970 – 1974: Teodoro A. Llamzon (Ateneo de Manila University)
 1975 – 1993: Andrew B. Gonzalez, FSC (De La Salle University)
 1993 – 1994: Andrew B. Gonzales, FSC (De La Salle University), Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (De La Salle University)
 1995 - 1997: Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (De La Salle University)
 1998 – 2001: Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (De La Salle University)
 2002 – 2005: Danilo T. Dayag (De La Salle University)
 2006 – 2007: Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (De La Salle University)
 2008 – 2010: Danilo T. Dayag (De La Salle University)
 2013: Paolo Nino Valdez (De La Salle University)
 2014: Isabel P. Martin (Ateneo de Manila University), Ruanni F. Tupas (National Institute of Education, Singapore), Marianne Rachel G. Perfecto (Ateneo de Manila University), Priscilla Angela T. Cruz (Ateneo de Manila University) (2014 Issue Editors)
 2015: Alejandro S. Bernardo, Judith Ma. Angelica S. Claustro, Marilu R. Madrunio, Veronico N. Tarrayo, Camilla J. Vizconde (2015 Issue Editors) (University of Santo Tomas),
 2016: Eden R. Flores (De La Salle University)

From 2017 until now, PJJ has been edited by Michael Tanangkingsing of the National Taipei University of Technology.

The 50th anniversary special issue of PJJ includes 12 articles featured in the past volumes of the journal. The compilation and publication of the Special Issue of PJJ serves as one of the main highlights of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of LSP, which is in addition to the regular Volume 50 issued in December 2019.

LSP has also released publications which honor outstandingly respectable names in the field of linguistics. Some of these publications are as follows:

- Parangal kay Cecilio Lopez: Essays in Honor of Cecilio Lopez on His Seventy-fifth Birthday (1973)
- Language Planning and the Building of a National Language: Essays in Honor of Santiago A. Fonacier on his 92nd Birthday (1977)
- Linguistics across Continents: In Honor of Richard S. Pittman (1981)
- Panagani: Essays in Honor of Bonifacio P. Sibayan (1984)
- Alay sa Wika: Essays in Honor of Fe T. Otones on Her 67th Birthday (1996)
- Pagtanaw: Essays on Language in Honor of Teodoro A. Llamzon (1998)
- The Filipino Bilingual: A Multidisciplinary Perspective. Festschrift in Honor of Emy M. Pascasio (2000)
- Parangal Cang Brother Andrew, Festschrift for Andrew Gonzalez on His Sixtieth Birthday (2000)
- Linguistics and Language Education in the Philippines and Beyond. Festschrift in Honor of Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista (2005)
- Current Issues in Philippine Linguistics and Anthropology: A Festschrift in Honor of Lawrence A. Reid (2006).

Other notable early publications of LSP, joint or singly, include:

- Acquiring Filipino as a First Language: Two Case Studies in 1984 by Andrew B. Gonzalez, F.S.C.
- Emma Bernabe's Language Policy Formulation, Programming, Implementation and Evaluation in Philippine Education (1565 – 1974) in 1988
- Evaluating Bilingual Education in the Philippines (1974-1985) in 1988 by Bonifacio P. Sibayan and Andrew B. Gonzalez, F.S.C.
- A Frequency Count of Filipino by Curtis McFarland in 1991
- The Proceedings of the 1992 Asia International Lexicography
- Jeff Taschner's Text and Tasks 1995
- Osamu Ikari's Adaptation in Japanese Today and Tomorrow in 1995
- The Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, Vol. II Linguistics in 1996
- Readings in Philippine Linguistics, 2nd Edition edited by Ma. Lourdes S. Bautista in 1996.
- Selected Papers in Applied Linguistics: Focus on Second Language Learning/Teaching edited by Emma Castillo in 1998,
- The Intellectualization of Filipino in 1999 by Bonifacio P. Sibayan
- The Language Provision of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines in 2001 by Andrew B. Gonzalez, F.S.C. and Wilfrido V. Villacorta.

LSP's publications like the monograph series published between 1969-1989 are found in Bautista's (1989) article "The Linguistic Society of the Philippines 1969-1989", while those released in 1990-2000 are listed in Pascasio (2000). Both are published in the 1989 and 2000 issues of PJJ, respectively. LSP's publications from 2006 onwards were limited to the single volume of PJJ released annually.

6. Advocacies

LSP has been very influential in charting directions in language policy formulation. It even took part in the Constitutional Convention in 1971, 1973, 1974, and 1987. LSP was involved in the formulation and evaluation of the Bilingual Education Policy (BEP) from 1974 to 1985, and based on the results of that evaluation, the policy was revised in 1987.

Further, the Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) would not have been implemented without the support of LSP. In 2008, amidst the intense debate on House Bill 3719 entitled "An Act Establishing a Multi-Lingual Education and Literacy Program," authored by Rep. Maggie Gunigundo, the LSP was a signatory to a petition endorsing the bill. Its endorsement of multilingual education was informed by the findings of empirical investigations, most especially by the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), revealing that young learners learn best when they use their mother tongues. As additional concrete steps, LSP held the second Emy M. Pascasio Memorial Lecture-Forum in September 2008 which revolved around the theme "First Language First: The Challenges of Multilingual Education and Literacy in the Philippines." Several months after, Diane Dekker of the SIL delivered a lecture on "MLE in the Philippines: Some Implementation Strategies" as the 2009 holder of the Bonifacio P. Sibayan Distinguished Professorial Chair in Applied Linguistics.

LSP also expressed its stance against the move to change the name of the Philippines to "Filipinas" in 2013 and its full support for the celebration of "Buwan ng mga Wika" in 2019. LSP believes that a proclamation will ensure that all the ethnicities and languages of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, including those of the Muslim brethren and the deaf community, will be adequately represented. Finally, LSP had an important role in the promulgation of R.A. 11106, The Filipino

Sign Language Act approved on October 20, 2018. The particular sections of the said Act where LSP has a mandated role are: Section 4: Education, Section 7: Workplaces and Section 11: Promotion of Filipino Sign Language.

LSP, indeed, is a strong voice as far as language policies in the country is concerned and has always been in support of any policy or advocacy that recognizes all Philippine languages as equal and shows greater openness to the contributions of these languages to nation-building.

7. Partner Organizations

LSP would not have been able to survive without the support of its partner organizations. Operating under meager funds, LSP worked collaboratively with Pambansang Samahan ng Linggwistikang Pilipino, Department of Education Culture and Sports, Ford Foundation-Bangkok, German Academic Exchange Service and Goethe House German Cultural House, Philippine-American Educational Foundation, Surian ng Wikang Pambansa, New Zealand Embassy, Fund for Assistance to Private Education, The Goethe Institute, The British Council, National Science Development Board, Asia Foundation, Ford Foundation, PRODED and NEDA-AID, Australian Government's Department of Communication and the Arts and various local universities across the country.

LSP is partnered with International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA), The Asian Association for Lexicography (ASIALEX), Southeast Asian Linguistic Society (SEALS), International Association for World Englishes (IAWE), Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC), Linguistic Association of Pakistan (LAP), The Chinoy Archives (TCA), and Free Linguistics Conference (FLC)

To date, the most active local partners of LSP are the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL Philippines) and the Philippine Social Science Council, (PSSC). LSP is one the 14 regular members of PSSC and as such, LSP has seats in the PSSC Board of Trustees. Br. Andrew B. Gonzalez FSC, Bonifacio P. Sibayan and Isabel P. Martin served as PSSC Chairs in 1981, 1982, and 2012, respectively.

8. Membership

From a membership of 92 in 1969-1970, the number increased to 326 twenty years after. More and more joined LSP and in 2000, there were 450 registered members. Fifty of them availed of the lifetime membership. As of December 31, 2018, LSP has the following memberships: Lifetime Members: 159; Honorary Lifetime Members: 25; Institutional Members: 15; Regular Members: 108; Student Members: 50. The total to date is 357 (See <https://www.lsphil.net/become-a-member>.)

The honorary lifetime members are Allan B. I. Bernardo, Kingsley Bolton, Resty Cena, Peter Collins, Maya Khemlani David, Estefania De Guzman, Diane Dekker, Williams Hall, Nemah Hermosa, Andy Kirkpatrick, Randy LaPolla, Charles Mann, Cecilia Mendiola, Dinah Mindo, Andrew Moody, Ricardo D. Nolasco, Dina C. Ocampo, Carl Rubino, Matt Shibatani, Ma. Lourdes Tayao, T. Ruanni F. Tupas, Ma. Luz C. Vilches, James Martin, Gail Forey, Ahmar Mahboob and Melchor A. Tatlonghari.

9. Current Board

At present, the following constitute the LSP Board:

Alejandro S. Bernardo (*University of Santo Tomas*)
 President
 (Board of Directors, 2017-2020)

Leah E. Gustilo (*De La Salle University*)
 Vice-President
 (Board of Directors, 2017-2020)

Priscilla Angela T. Cruz (*Ateneo de Manila University*)
 Secretary
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Rachelle Ballesteros-Lintao (*University of Santo Tomas*)
 Treasurer
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Shirley N. Dita (*De La Salle University*)
 Immediate Past President
 (2015-2018)

Board of Directors

Dennis H. Pulido (*Far Eastern University*)
 Director for Membership
 (Board of Directors, 2017-2020)

Michael C.L. Tanangkingsing (*National Taipei University of Technology*)
 Director for Publications
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Rochelle Irene G. Lucas (*De La Salle University*)
 Director for Professional Meetings
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Jesus Federico C. Hernandez (*University of the Philippines*)
 Director for Training
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Aldrin P. Lee (*University of the Philippines*)
 Director for Conferences
 (Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Arceli M. Amarles
Philippine Normal University
Director for Public Relations and Linkages
(Board of Directors, 2018-2021)

Tammy B. Ruch (*SIL International*)
Director for Research and Special Projects
(Member of the Board ex-officio, 2018-2021)

Board of Advisors
(2018-2021)

Emma C. Castillo
Philippine Normal University

Resty M. Cena
University of Alberta

Marilu R. Madrunio
University of Santo Tomas

Isabel P. Martin
Ateneo de Manila University

Anna Maria Gloria S. Ward
University of Santo Tomas

Staff

Wilkinson Daniel Wong Gonzales
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Secretariat; Webmaster

Philip Adrienne Rentillo
De La Salle University
Webmaster

10. LSP's Trajectory

LSP, in the next three years, will conduct training programs on language and language related topics both at pre-service and in-service levels locally and nationally, hold conferences at the local, regional, national and international levels in matters relating to linguistics, language education and their allied disciplines, engage in research and participate in discussions that inform language policies, publish and disseminate the results of original scientific studies undertaken and to communicate with organizations within and outside the Philippines that are also engaged in such pursuit, collaborate with other peer associations and organizations with related objectives and goals, further increase the number of individual and institutional memberships and recognize

scholarship and meritorious contribution in the field of applied linguistics through grants and distinguished awards.

The following key results areas would show what LSP hopes to achieve in the next three years:

- **Training Programs:** Three trainings conducted; 150 training-workshop participants, 75,000 Php income generated from the trainings
- **Scholarly Lectures and Conferences:** Three international conferences held, at least 10 free lectures and round table discussions conducted
- **Research and Publication:** One pioneering research completed, four regular PJJ issues and two special PJJ issues released, one festschrift published
- **Linkages and Networking:** three new institutional partnerships forged
- **Membership and Organizational Identity:** Three-hundred regular members, 100 new lifetime members and 30 new institutional members
- **Service and Scholarship Recognition:** three dissertation grants awarded, three best paper student awards given, and three honorary lifetime memberships conferred.

11. Conclusion

Other than man's first landing on the moon, Filipinos have witnessed a very important event in history. As how Asuncion-Llande (1970 as cited in Dumoran, n.d.) put it:

A significant event in the history of Philippine linguistics has just happened. After several abortive attempts, the Linguistic Society of the Philippines was finally organized. This is the first professional organization of its kind in the country. It is a sign of maturity and an evidence that linguistics is finally coming into its own as a professional discipline.

The role of LSP in the advancement of linguistics in the Philippines and linguistics that is truly Filipino cannot be underestimated. Without any doubt, LSP deserves credit for its efforts in promoting and celebrating languages and linguistic research in the country and outside its borders.

If the two degree programs in linguistics offered 49 years ago through a consortium between leading universities in the country, the 456+ papers published in the 50 volumes of the Philippine Journal of Linguistics, the hundreds of lectures and workshops conducted, the numerous national and international conferences staged, the eleven memorial lectures, the two professorial chairs and 46 professorial chair lectures, the 22 major publications and countless minor ones, the formulation and evaluation of the Bilingual Education Policy in 1970s, the contribution to the implementation of the mother tongue-based multilingual education in 2013, the stance against the move to change the name of the Philippines to "Filipinas" in 2013 and the full support for the celebration of "Buwan ng mga Wika" in 2019 and the support for the promulgation of the Filipino Sign Language in 2018 are not LSP's means for championing Philippine linguistics, one might not have a name for all these.

LSP has indeed weathered the tests of the past 50 years. Though there may be facts inadvertently omitted and overlooked in this chapter, the LSP's accomplishments outlined above attest to the zeal and commitment of its members, partners and officers. LSP, now more than ever, looks into the future with much optimism and confidence that it will be able to continue what its

illustrious pillars have started.

LSP, like other learned professional organizations, have faced and will still face difficulties, but these will hardly dampen the spirit of the people that form the organization. With the relentless support of all, the LSP flag will stay afloat come what may.

References

- Asuncion-Lande, N. (1970). Theoretical and Methodological Trends in Philippine Linguistics Research: 1560-1970. In *Anthropological Linguistics*, 12(6): 208-225. The Trustees of Indiana University, University of Kansas.
- Dayag, D. T. & Dita, S. N. (2012). Linguistic research in the Philippines: Trends, prospects and challenges. In V. A. Miralao & J. B. Agbisit (Eds.), *Philippine social sciences: Capacities, directions, and challenges* (pp. 110-126). Quezon, the Philippines: Philippine Social Science Council.
- Dumoran H. (2019). *The PJJ at 50*. A paper presented at the 2019 LSP International Conference, De La Salle University, March 7-9, 2019.
- Reid, L. (1981). Philippine Linguistics: The State of the Art: 1970-1980. In D. V. Hart (Ed.), *Philippine Studies: Political Science, Economics, and Linguistics* (pp. 212-273). DeKalb, IL: DeKalb Center for Southeast Asian Studies.