

International Symposium on Language Sciences (ISLS): Interdisciplinary Research and the Legacy of Yuen Ren Chao, 10-11 May 2024

Panel on **Interculturality, linguistic diversity, and social inclusion: Current issues and future challenges** (Convened by Nate Ming Curran and Hans J Ladegaard, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

As a result of globalization, individuals cross national borders with greater frequency, and in greater numbers, than ever before. Today's hundreds-of-millions of migrant workers represent the largest number of people in history to live outside their place of birth (International Organization for Migration, 2021). Migrants workers as well as refugees and asylum seekers visibly contribute to linguistic and cultural diversity of the countries they migrate to and help destabilize monolingual and essentialist perspectives of identity. At the same time, they also face enormous challenges, including language barriers, anti-migrant attitudes and rhetoric, and structural economic inequality.

This panel celebrates Professor Yuen Ren Chao's legacy—and his identity as a migrant who successfully bridged Chinese and American culture—by convening papers that address contemporary issues in intercultural communication and social inclusion. The panel seeks to explore some of the structural issues that lead to social exclusion of migrant workers and refugees, and to identify how intercultural frameworks may help us develop more inclusive organizations and societies.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Language diversity
- Migrant worker health
- Language policy
- Interculturality and the Internet
- Linguistic discrimination
- Interculturality and language learning
- Social inclusion in organizations and society