

## **Contributors:**

**Dr YUNJI WU** is a senior lecturer in Asia Institute, the University of Melbourne. She is a graduate of Hunan Normal University in China and has a PhD in Linguistics from the linguistics Department, the University of Melbourne. Her main research interest is Chinese linguistics, particularly Chinese dialectology. She has completed a number of projects on the dialects spoken in Hunan, China in which she acted as the chief investigator since she finished her doctoral degree in 1993. She has tried to create an innovative framework to describe the grammar of Sinitic languages, not only synchronically but also diachronically. Her approach and analyses have been well received through both her conference papers and publications. Currently she is working on an unclassified dialect named Waxiang spoken in western Hunan.

**Dr LIJIAN HONG** is a senior lecturer in the Chinese Studies Program, Arts Faculty of Monash University, Melbourne. He graduated from Wuhan University in central China. Before coming to Australia, he was a research fellow at the Institute of Political Science, Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences. After he completed his PhD at the Australian National University, he began his research project on central-local relations in post-Mao China funded by the Australian Research Council. He has since published three co-authored books, a number of journal articles or book chapters on the topic. His recently interest is in the cross-border education and teaching Chinese for overseas Chinese background students. He has done some preliminary research in teaching Chinese at Australian universities.

**Dr BAOQIANG GAO** lectures in Asian Studies, La Trobe University, Melbourne, after completed his PhD study in international education in Australia. He has years of teaching experience in both Chinese and Australian tertiary institutions. His current research focuses on the overseas students' performance in Australian universities. He has publications on Chinese education, language teaching and intercultural communications.

**Dr WEN XIONG** was an associate professor of Shanghai University, China before coming to Australia. Her PhD thesis entitled "The Modal Auxiliary Neng Verb Group in the Acquisition of Chinese as a Second Language" has been accepted by the School of Educational Studies, La Trobe University. Her research interests cover the area of language teaching and education, language acquisition, and language and culture contrast. She is now Professor of Chinese Language of the University of Rhode Island, USA,

**CAN QIN** is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at La Trobe University, Melbourne. She gained her MA at the Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand. Her research interest is to explore the interrelations between globalisation and the export education industry from sociological perspective.