

***'Knowledge on ... or knowledge of ...?':
Using corpus evidence in language learning***

Co-organiser: Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union

Date & Time: 7 June 2008 (Sat) 2:30–4:30p.m.

Venue: HKPTU, Head office (8/F., Good Hope Bldg., 618 Nathan Road, Mong Kok)

Speakers: Prof. Winnie Cheng

*Director, Research Centre for Professional Communication in English
Department of English, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.*

Audience: English Teachers

Participants: 18

Workshop Details:

As teachers, we are expected to be able to answer queries such as “Should I write knowledge on ... or knowledge of ...?”, but what happens when a teacher is not around to ask? This seminar explores ways in which we can empower our students to learn to answer such questions confidently on their own. The seminar will illustrate how students can be trained to employ easy-to-use software in combination with readily available corpora to search for words and phrases and to critically analyse the results. This learning method is often referred to as ‘data-driven learning’ (DDL). The seminar will focus on how DDL can help to unravel the use of prepositions in English and how it can explore the importance of collocation more generally