

Canadian Linguistics Association National Achievement Award 2010

At the 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Linguistic Association, held at Concordia University in Montreal, Dr. J.K. Chambers was awarded the inaugural CLA National Achievement Award. These awards are presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of linguistics and who have earned distinction for themselves and the Canadian linguistics community.

Jack Chambers earned his doctorate from the University of Alberta in 1970. In 1973, he published "Canadian Raising" in the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*, likely the most cited article on Canadian English. In 1975, he edited *Canadian English: Origins and Structures*. These definitive contributions have been followed by 34 articles and chapters on Canadian English. In the past three years alone, Jack has published eight new articles. In his writing, he has contributed to virtually all areas of linguistics, including phonology, syntax, literary theory, literacy, and the study of native languages of Canada. He has held visiting professorships at universities in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Hungary, and South Africa. He has also lectured in Scotland, Sweden, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, and Japan.

Professor Chambers has a long-standing history of academic service. He was assistant editor of the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics* from 1971–78, interim editor in 1973–74, and editor from 1979–83. He was Chair of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Toronto from 1986–90. He was named Outstanding Teacher in the Faculty of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto in 1999 and has been an extremely active and effective mentor and supervisor.

In addition to his strictly academic activities, Jack Chambers has communicated his expertise to a much wider public through his extensive work as editorial advisor and consultant to dictionaries and usage guides on Canadian English. He served as a program consultant for the CBC-TV documentary *Talking Canadian* in 2004 and he has participated in many other radio, television, and film projects on language. He has also done extensive work as an expert witness and forensic consultant on linguistic matters. He has participated in at least 40 cases involving murder, obscenity, fraud, trademark law, tax law, amnesia, and native land claims.

In 2009, in recognition of his academic achievements, Jack Chambers was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Canada's highest academic honour. With the 2010 National Achievement Award, he has now also received the highest honour awarded by the CLA to one of its members.