Roger Finch

Professor emeritus
Surugadai University
Hanno, Saitama (Japan)

Japanese phonology and the Altaic languages

Monday 09 May

Boston College
Lyons Hall 208
4.00 pm

Now living in Cape Neddick, Maine, after a long teaching career in Japan, Prof Roger Finch received his MA in Linguistics and his PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Literatures (NELL) at Harvard and has published scholarly articles on a wide range of linguistic topics covering Japanese, Ainu, Korean, the Altaic languages, Mongolian, Turkish, Yakut, Chuvash, Uighur, Arabic, and Quechua and various language isolates.

His doctoral thesis examined the Chinese and Mongolian, Tibetan, Khotanese Saka, and Sanskrit versions of the Śri Parvata from the Uighur-Turkish translation of the Swarnaprabhāsottama-sūtra (Altun Yaruk).

In the field of applied linguistics he published a two-volume guide to English pronunciation for Japanese speakers.

The author of three books of poetry, Roger Finch recently received the title of Senior Poet Laureate of Maine and is also an accomplished musician and musicologist.

A Lawrence G Jones Memorial Lecture in Linguistics and Poetics, 2011