An Interview with APPLE Lecture 2011 Guest Speaker Prof. Tom Cobb
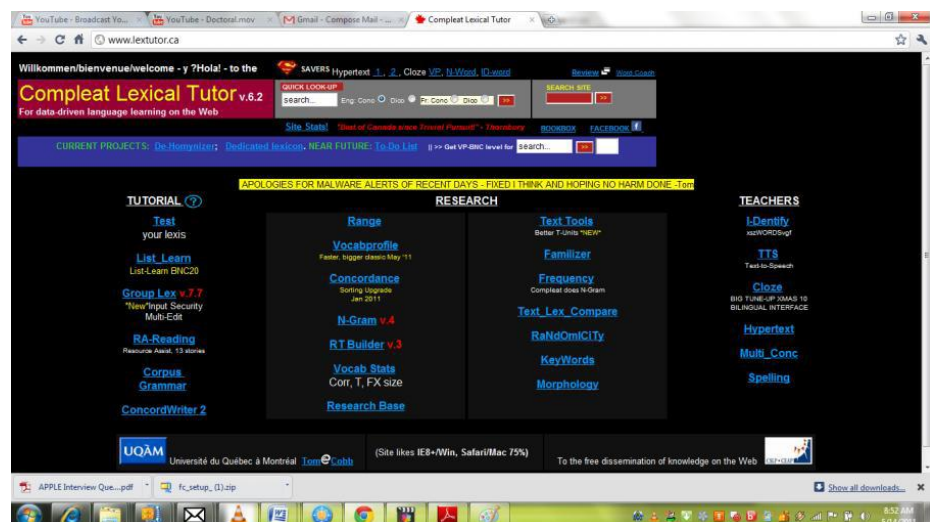
Anny YaYun Sun, Mi Sun Park, and Adrienne Lew

The past decade has witnessed the exponential growth of technologies for vocabulary learning, and a revived interest in the applications of corpus linguistics. The TESOL/AL Web Journal team (represented by Anny Sun and Mi Sun Park) was thrilled to meet Prof. Tom Cobb, the APPLE Lecture speaker this year, for an informative session about his expertise in these two areas.

One of the most well-known accomplishments of Prof. Cobb is his website, *The Compleat Lexical Tutor*, which attracts over 2,000 hits daily. While the focus of his APPLE Lecture was more on the application of the materials and programs at his website, here at the interview we were glad to see how he connects theory to practice.

From the left: Anny Sun, Prof. Cobb, Mi Sun Park

Prof. Cobb's website: *The Compleat Lexical Tutor*

The Interview

1. Introduction

2. What is the "intelligent approach of frequency to corpus analysis" about?

How might it enhance language learning / teaching research?

How can classroom teachers base their teaching on this approach?

3. Your website, *The Compleat Lexical Tutor*, attracts over 2,000 hits daily.

What motivated you to create this site?

In what ways is it helpful to language teachers and learners?

4. From your observation—

What are some common challenges that classroom language teachers face as they attempt to incorporate technology into their vocabulary teaching?

What advice would you give to classroom teachers so that they could overcome these challenges?

5. What would you say to new doctoral students regarding technology-based teaching and corpus-based research?

Can you share with us some of the most exciting new lines of research to get into?