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Editorial

The current editorial board of *Crossroads of Language, Interaction and Culture* is proud to present work by advanced graduate students and emerging scholars. Volume 8 of *Crossroads* includes selected proceedings from the 2010 CLIC GSA at UCLA and the 2009 LISO at UCSB sister conferences. It also presents an interview with a long-time CLIC GSA at UCLA supporter and CLIC associated faculty member, Frederick Erickson.

From the 2010 conference, Sabrina Billings discusses linguistic and non-linguistic practices of Tanzanian beauty contestants in relation to larger language ideologies in Tanzania. She builds on previous studies that have examined institutional Tanzanian English by considering linguistic knowledge and shows how variability in competence is related to pre-existing social and spatial hierarchies found outside of the pageant world in which English is spoken and judged. She claims that “elite” English in Tanzania is not monolithic in nature, and through her analysis demonstrates how interpretations of English competence and semiotic behavior in general are determined in a situational manner.

Also from the 2010 conference, Hee Ju’s work is a contribution to the growing field of interactional linguistics. The author explores a particular turn expansion practice by Korean speakers, characterized by the author as “pivot turns.” She aims to show how speakers’ and recipients’ input during the course of ongoing interactions conditions the emergence of syntactic structures. In particular, Hee Ju demonstrates that through the production of particles and/or predicates interlocutors make pivot turns that transform a prior trajectory of talk and modify their stance.

Additionally, from the 2009 conference, Tessa van Charldorp explores the genre of police questioning and typing as a collaborative interaction with suspects. This study delineates how typing as an interactional activity shapes the transformation from talk to text and also provides insight into the dynamics between power and authority.

Finally, Sarah Jean Johnson and Laura Amador talk with Frederick Erickson on the eve of his retirement from UCLA and a university teaching career that spanned over four decades. He discusses his methods of transcription, which emerged from his studies of music composition and preceded the rise of discourse analysis as a field. He also shares how his personal religious beliefs and political convictions motivate his work and frame his understanding of social theory.

In line with our research traditions at CLIC and LISO, this collection draws from naturally-occurring human social interactions and applies interpretive methods of ethnography and well as conversation, multi-modal

and talk-in-interaction analysis. The authors investigate the linguistic and social practices of speakers of Swahili, Korean and Dutch and link these to issues of identity, interaction and power. Frederick Erickson not only gives a personal account of his role in the emergence of discourse analysis, he also offers advice to the next generation of researchers who, like us, are captivated with the dynamic interplay of language and sociality as it is expressed by real people in everyday moments. We hope that you enjoy this volume as much as we have enjoyed putting it together for you.

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