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Newsletter

*of the American Sociological Association's Section on
Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis*

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Message from the Co-Chairs

Greetings Section on EMCA members!

With the ASA Annual Meeting in Chicago just around the corner, we are looking forward to enjoying the excellent presentations we have scheduled for our four EMCA sessions, and to seeing many of you at the Section's Business Meeting and Reception on August 11. Reminders of the lineups for these sessions and other information about Section-related activities are included [below](#).

Congratulations to the winners of our Section elections, Kristella Montiegel (University of Colorado Boulder) and Jakub Mlynar (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland), who will begin three-year terms as Council members, and J Sterphone (Wheaton College, MA), who will begin a four-year term as Secretary-Treasurer. Our sincere thanks to all who ran for election, to Sylvaine Tuncer for serving as Election Coordinator, and special thanks to outgoing Council members Kaoru Hayano and Philippe Sormani.

We are also delighted to congratulate our Section award winners, and we would like to extend our gratitude to those who served on the three award committees – please see [below](#) for further details.

The final installment of our 2024-25 webinar series took place on June 4, and a recap of the webinar is included below. Please feel free to reach out to us if you would like to share ideas for next year's webinar series, including proposing prospective presenters or self-nominating as a presenter.

As we noted in our Spring newsletter, we were saddened to hear of the passing in April of our 2015 Garfinkel-Sacks Award winner, Jeff Coulter. We have included [below](#) some excerpts from the pre-publication version of the obituary for Jeff prepared by Mike Lynch and we also encourage you to read the [published version](#) in *Human Studies* (volume 48, number 2, pp. 321-324). Moreover, Phil Hutchinson has compiled a shareable folder containing PDFs of Jeff's work, which can be accessed [here](#) or by scanning the QR code below. Our thanks go to Mike and Phil for the work they have done to honor Jeff's legacy, and for allowing us to share it with Section members.

With warm wishes,
Satomi & Kevin



Excerpts from Michael Lynch's Obituary for Jeff Coulter



Photo credit: Elizabeth Stokoe

Jeff Coulter died on April 29, 2025. He is survived by his wife, Amal Coulter, his former wife Lena Jayyusi and their daughter Jinan. He grew up in Liverpool and witnessed at close hand the British explosion in rock music at Merseyside that was heard around the world in the 1960s. Both the cultural excitement and economic woes that beset the area left a lasting impression on Jeff. Despite leaving England for the United States and achieving research and teaching honors in the higher echelons of

academia, Coulter retained his working class, North of England roots. His passionate commitments to economic and political justice, and his endearing sense of humor were often exhibited while hoisting pints of beer with colleagues in a pub.

[...]

During his career, Coulter published six books and more than 60 articles and book chapters. The first few of his articles were contributions to Marxist scholarship, but soon after beginning his studies in sociology at the University of Manchester, he embraced a combination of ethnomethodology and ordinary language philosophy. Wes Sharrock and John Lee supervised Coulter's dissertation and introduced him to ethnomethodology and the writings of Ludwig Wittgenstein, Peter Winch, J.L. Austin, and Gilbert Ryle. Together with Sharrock and Lee, Rod Watson, Bob Anderson, Graham Button, Lena Jayyusi, Dave Francis, Peter Eglin, and many others, Coulter became an integral part of a lively group of faculty and students in and around Manchester who critically and creatively used logical-grammatical analysis in detailed research on the organization of communicative action and practical reasoning.

[...]

With Coulter as a prominent member, Boston University's Sociology Department became the main site in the East Coast of the USA of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis (EMCA). Along with their numerous PhD students, and with support from department colleagues such as Peter Yeager and Martin Kosloff, Psathas and Coulter developed a distinctive program at Boston University. As an alumnus and exponent of Manchester's distinctive program, Coulter was the key link tying together what Psathas (2010) characterized as the Manchester-Boston school of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis (EMCA). This 'school' made more explicit and extensive use of philosophy than other centers of EMCA research and teaching in the United States. Psathas made sustained contributions to phenomenological sociology, while Coulter took initiatives from Wittgenstein's later writings and the ordinary language philosophy of Austin and Ryle. Together, they melded these lines of philosophy into distinctive empirical treatments of language-use, communicative actions, and knowledge.

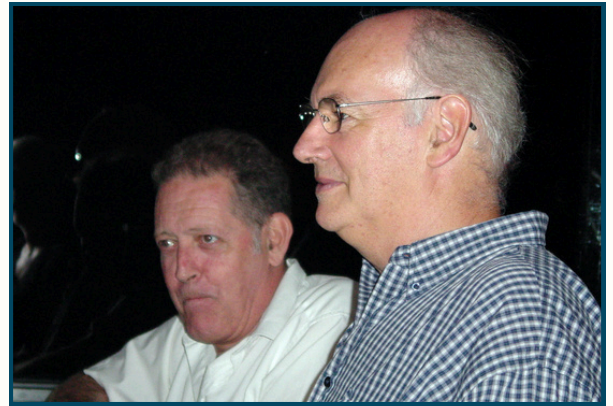
[...]

I suppose that one could argue that Coulter's campaign against cognitivism is broadly aligned with an opposition to individualist ideology. However, he chose not to air political grievances or denounce powers-that-be in his academic writing and teaching, while openly advocating and participating in political activity within and beyond the university. His arguments against cognitivism, mechanized information processing, Israel's oppression of Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, and the resurgence of authoritarianism in Europe and the United States evidently have had little deterrent effect. However, despite the dismal state of the world he recently left behind, he exhibited a resilient belief that, in the end, the best arguments would win the day. Those of us who remain on the planet wait in hope for that day.

Remembering Jeff



Jeff with Wes Sharrock
Photo credit: Michael Lynch



Jeff with Peter Eglin
Photo credit: Elizabeth Stokoe



Jeff with Peter Eglin & Derek Edwards
Photo credit: Elizabeth Stokoe



Jeff at the Grafton Arms, Manchester
Photo credit: Michael Lynch



Jeff (third from left) with Harold Garfinkel (left),
Mike Lynch (second from left), & Anne Warfield Rawls (right)
Photo credit: Janet Vertesi

2025 Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Award Winners

Garfinkel-Sacks Award for Distinguished Scholarship

Kenneth Liberman, University of Oregon

This award recognizes those who have made distinguished lifetime career contributions to the fields of ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis.

EMCA Distinguished Book Award

**Matthew M. Hollander, Marion Technical College,
and Jason Turowetz, University of California, Santa Barbara**

Morality in the Making of Sense and Self: Stanley Milgram's Obedience Experiments and the New Science of Morality. Oxford University Press, 2023.

The 2025 award recognizes an outstanding book contributing to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis.

EMCA Graduate Student Paper Award

André Buscariolli, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Managing Trouble Along a Continuum of Accountability: On Police Practices for Dealing with Less-Than-Competent Subjects.” *British Journal of Criminology*, 65(1), 54-74, 2025.

This award recognizes an outstanding graduate student paper that contributes to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis.

Spring 2025 Webinar Recap

Graduate Research Showcase Series

Turn-Final “Ha” in Mandarin, Non-Participation Accounts in Cervical Cancer Screening Discussion, and “I Don’t Know”-Prefaced Questions in Child Vaccination Talk

A big thank-you to those who attended the last session of the Graduate Research Showcase Webinar Series 2024-25 – and to those who participated in all or any of this year’s Section webinars! Just as the previous ones, the Spring webinar on June 4 featured a group of rising stars in our field, including Fiona Hu from Ocean University of China, Aniek Antvelink and Lieve von Hengel, both from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Free University Amsterdam). And as usual, we were joined by a small but very engaging, international audience.

Fiona kicked off the session with a detailed report of the particle “ha” in Mandarin conversation, and focused on how it is used in turn-final position to indicate the current action/turn as an attempt to renew a prior initiating action which has not received a preferred response, or any response at all. Aniek’s and Lieve’s presentations fell on the side of more early-stage research. Aniek presented a collection of fragments of discussion between women and healthcare professionals in the Netherlands, in which accounts are produced for not having participated or delayed participation in cervical cancer screening. Lieve, too in the realm of healthcare interaction, brought in several episodes of municipal health nurses’ home visit in the Netherlands, with a particular interest in “I don’t know” used by the nurse prefacing a question posed to the parent(s) visited.

Despite being on different topics and at different research stages, all three presentations sparked immensely fruitful conversations, showcasing the promise of our EMCA graduate students and the vibrance of the EMCA community. Also worth mentioning is that we managed to hold the Spring webinar across three different time zones (America, Asia, and Europe), which we could not possibly have done without the great support from both the presenters and the participants.

Again, we encourage participation and suggestions for our Section webinars. The next webinar will not be held until the Fall of 2025, and next year’s webinar themes are still very much “brewing”. Therefore, we welcome you to share ideas with us regarding how you’d like to see in next year’s Section webinars – please find one of us (Kevin, Liz, and Satomi) at the ASA meeting and Section social events!

Liz & Marat

ASA 2025 Annual Meeting, Chicago

Program Information

The 2025 Annual Meeting Online Program is available. Log into the [online portal](#) with your ASA username/password and select “View the Online Program”. Registration for the meeting is open. [Preconference](#) and [Tour](#) registration has been added. Below is information about EMCA Sessions at this year’s conference.

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 7:00 to 7:45am

**40107 - Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Council Meeting
East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3**

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 8:00 to 9:30am

**40207 - Research in Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis
East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3**

Description: In this session, we invite papers reporting current ethnomethodological and/or conversation analytic research.

Presider: Dirk vom Lehn, Kings College

Presentations:

“How do you feel when you’re happy?”: Autism and the Production of Neurodivergent Difference in Clinical Spaces

Jason Turowetz, University of California-Santa Barbara
Wavery Duck, University of California-Santa Barbara

Modulating Certainty: Pursuing Parent Acceptance of Diagnoses and Treatment Recommendations in Pediatric Neurology

Keith Cox, George Washington University

On Commonsense and Autistic Languages—What is the Relationship?

Douglas W. Maynard, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Parents’ Vaccination Resistance Strategies Shape Physician Persuasion Options: A Conversation Analytic Approach to Vaccine Negotiation

Sage Frock, University of California, Los Angeles
Tanya Stivers, University of California, Los Angeles

Reported Categorization in the Second Language Classroom

Nadja Tadic, Georgetown University

ASA 2025|Annual Meeting, Chicago

Program Information

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 10:00 to 11:00am

40407 - New Directions in Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis
East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

Description: In this session, we invite theoretical and/or empirical papers that focus on potential directions for ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis.

Presider: Dirk vom Lehn, Kings College

Presentations:

Managing Self-Presentation: Implicit Bias Discourse as an Interactional Resource in Moral Accountability

Liz Munday, University of California, Santa Barbara

Reimagining Ontopolitical Work: Ethnomethodology, Ontocracy, and the Political Ontology of the Anthropocene

Richard Randell, Masaryk University

Robert Braun, Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS), Vienna

Resistance and Pursuit in US Supreme Court Oral Arguments

Brianna McKenna, University of California, Los Angeles

When “Friends” are Not Just Friends: Managing the Inference-Richness of Categories When Referring to Persons

Ryo Okazawa, Shizuoka University

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 11:00 to 11:30am

40507 - Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Business Meeting
East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

ASA 2025|Annual Meeting, Chicago

Program Information

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2:00 to 3:30pm

40810 - Conversation Analysis and Ethnomethodology: Navigating Knowledge, Credibility, and Accountability in Talk

East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Randolph 1B

Description: This session examines how people negotiate reasonableness, credibility, epistemic positioning and accountability in interaction.

Presider: Dirk vom Lehn, Kings College

Presentations:

Involvement in Obtaining Assistance in Long-distance Caregiving Phone Calls: Putting Forward a Favorable Scenario

Atsushi Nakagawa, Utunomiya University

Right to Talk: Socializing Young Children's Epistemic Autonomy to Talk about Themselves

Ruey-Ying Liu, National Chengchi University

Turning the Tide in Request Negotiations: The Role of Accounts and Reasonableness

Giovanni Rossi, University of California, Los Angeles

Tanya Stivers, University of California, Los Angeles

Andrew Chalfoun, University of California, Los Angeles

Wielding Reasonable Doubt in Jury Deliberations

David R. Gibson, University of Notre Dame

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 6:30 to 8:30pm

Section Reception - Hubbard Inn (1st Floor Sun Parlor), 110 W Hubbard St, Chicago, Illinois 60654 (as in previous years, snacks will be provided and there will be a cash bar).

ASA 2025|Annual Meeting, Chicago

———— Program Information ————

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 10:00 to 11:30am

50403 - Conversation Analysis and Ethnomethodology: Context, Sequence, and Meaning in Interaction

East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 1A

Description: This session focuses on how interactions are made intelligible through sequential moves, contextual cues, and practices of understanding and managing ambiguity.

Presider: Jason Turowetz, University of California-Santa Barbara

Presentations:

Hybridized Ethnomethodological Logic: A Reply to “Critics” of Revolution and Witchcraft

Gordon C. Chang, Western Illinois University

J.R. Osborn

Aminda Smith

Rectifying Others’ Misunderstandings Without Doing Correcting: Living with Obscurities in One World

Aug Nishizaka, Chiba University

Stuck in the Screen: An Ethnomethodological Exploration of Public Smartphone Noise Disturbances

Caitlin Begg, Authentic Social

Two Functions of Context Invokers in Quantification Sequences

Timothy Halkowski, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

What Is Trans-Sequential Analysis?

Matthew J. Mahler, Yale University

Mirco Liefke, Freie Universität Berlin

Call for Book Proposals: ASA Rose Series in Sociology

The ASA Rose Series in Sociology, a joint publication of the Russell Sage Foundation and the American Sociological Association, invites seasoned scholars to submit proposals for books that offer fresh perspectives on enduring controversies, challenge prevailing paradigms, and provide synthetic analyses of contemporary public issues. The series focuses on critical areas of research, including the **Future of Work, Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration, and Social, Political, and Economic Inequality**. The editors also welcome interdisciplinary work that intersects with these themes. Rose Series books are designed to be accessible to both academic and general audiences, ensuring broad impact and relevance across multiple fields.

Benefits of Publishing with the Rose Series:

- **Quick and Professional Review Process:** Russell Sage compensates expert reviewers to ensure timely and high-quality evaluations of proposals.
- **Seminar with Established Scholars:** Authors are invited to present drafts of their manuscripts to leading experts, strengthening the final product and generating excitement for the forthcoming book.
- **Extensive Marketing Support:** The Rose Editors, Russell Sage Foundation, and ASA collaborate on a comprehensive marketing effort to maximize the visibility and impact of Rose Series books.
- **Author Meets Critic Session at ASA Annual Meeting:** Each year, one new Rose Series book is selected for a special Author Meets Critic panel discussion at the ASA Annual Meeting.
- **Rose Book Speaker Series:** Hosted by the University at Albany Rose Editors, this lecture series offers authors a platform to present their work to diverse audiences and emphasize the policy relevance of their research.

Interested authors are encouraged to submit their proposals. **Proposals are reviewed on a rolling basis.** For more information, please contact us at roseseries@albany.edu or reach out to a member of our editorial team: Joanna Dreby (jdreby@albany.edu), Aaron Major (amajor@albany.edu), Katherine Trent (ktrent@albany.edu), and Steve Messner (smessner@albany.edu).

Upcoming Conferences and Events

The 8th Nordic Interdisciplinary Conference on Discourse and Interaction (December 3-5, 2025):

The the 8th Nordic Interdisciplinary Conference on Discourse and Interaction focuses on discourse and interaction research and invites contributions from different and diverse fields of inquiry including conversation analysis, discursive psychology, narrative analysis, applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, textual studies, gesture studies, rhetoric, political discourse analysis, multimodal interaction analysis, communication studies, organization studies, and more. Trondheim, Norway, December 3rd-5th, 2025.

For more information, visit [this link](#).

International Conference of Conversation Analysis and Psychotherapy (February 26-28, 2026):

The International Conference of Conversation Analysis and Psychotherapy will be held February 26–28, 2026, in Cracow, Poland. This year’s theme, How Psychotherapy Works: Longitudinal Perspectives, focuses on the mechanisms and processes that underpin effective psychotherapy over time. The conference will explore how therapeutic interventions evolve, sustain, and influence client outcomes across diverse contexts. Plenary speakers include Steven Clayman, Arnulf Deppermann, Joanna Pawelczyk, John Rae, and Sanna Vehviläinen. The Organizing Committee is chaired by Bernadetta Janusz, and the Scientific Committee is chaired by Liz González.

For more information, including abstract deadlines and registration, visit the conference [website](#).

2026 International Conference on Conversation Analysis (June 26-29, 2026):

The 2026 International Conference on Conversation Analysis (ICCA2026) will be held at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, from June 26-29, 2026 (pre-conference workshops June 23-25, 2026). The theme of ICCA2026—Diversities, Language, Interaction—emphasizes the richness of interaction and brings a diversity-focused perspective to research on language and interaction. The conference will feature plenary talks, panels, poster sessions, pre-conference workshops, and abundant networking opportunities.

For more information, visit this [link](#).

2025-26 Webinar Presenter Call

For the 2025–26 academic year, we're opening a general call for webinar presenters. Whether you're developing new work, refining a manuscript, or revisiting classic data with fresh eyes, we'd love to hear from you. These webinars are a chance to share your research, get constructive feedback, and connect with colleagues across institutional and geographic boundaries.

If you are interested in presenting in the Fall 2025 webinar, take a moment to fill out this brief [interest form](#).

Spotlight Nomination Form

Have someone in mind who inspires you or is an outstanding emerging scholar in the EMCA community? Nominate them for the next Graduate Student or Faculty Spotlight! These features shine a light on remarkable work, innovative ideas, and the personal stories behind the research.

Whether it's a mentor, peer, or your own journey, take a moment to celebrate the scholars who make our field vibrant. Submit your nomination [here](#)—let's keep the spotlight on excellence!

Newsletter Content

We encourage section members to send us information about upcoming events or recent publications to share in the newsletter! You can contact Liz

Munday and Marat Zheng (emca.asa@gmail.com). If you would like to promote recent books, please send a brief description of the work along with a high-resolution image of the book cover.

Purchase a Gift ASA or EMCA Section for Students

To purchase gifts online, sign in and navigate to the Gift Memberships icon on the left-side dashboard in the Member Portal. The deadline for purchase is July 31. Section gift memberships are not available for purchase from August 1 to August 31 each year. Please note that gift memberships are nonrefundable, and the discount code expires 30 days after purchase.

For Membership Gifts:

In the form of a \$55 credit, the cost of a 2024 Student membership (which can be applied to higher cost memberships).

- Click the Purchase a Gift Membership for a Student button
- Select the Quantity of gifts you would like to purchase
- Click Add to Cart

For Section Gifts:

- Click the Purchase a Gift Section Membership button
- Select the desired Section and gift rate (Student or Nonstudent) from the Section dropdown menu and then select the quantity of gifts from the next dropdown menu.
- Click Add to Cart

After you complete the transaction, you will receive an email with the discount code and a set of instructions for you to give gift recipients. If you send a discount code to someone and they say they do not wish to redeem it, you can send the discount code to another person. The discount code is valid for the number of transactions (quantity) you purchase and can be redeemed entirely online.

If you have questions or need assistance with your gift purchase or redemption, please contact our membership staff at 202-247-9840, Ext. 1 or membership@asanet.org.

