

# 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 deadline for **ASA Annual Meeting submissions** approaching soon, we would like to encourage you to indicate our Section Sessions as your top choice for your submission to give us the opportunity to program your paper in one of the six sessions we have been allocated for the Annual Meeting. The ASA submissions portal will close on **Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 9:00 pm EST**. Submitters may choose to submit either full papers or extended abstracts. If you submit an extended abstract and it is accepted, you will need to send the full paper one month before the Annual Meeting. We encourage submissions that report new work using Ethnomethodology (EM) and/or Conversation Analysis (CA) approaches, and we also welcome research that incorporates other approaches but would be of interest to our section's membership. Also note the approaching deadlines for our **section awards (March 1, 2026)** and consider nominating either your own work or that of a student or colleague. Further details of both ASA submissions and section award nominations are included in this newsletter.

Our webinar series for 2025-26 got underway with a panel discussion about teaching EMCA in the Fall webinar on December 11, 2025. A sizeable audience enjoyed a stimulating set of reflections by Danielle Pillet-Shore (Department of Communication, University of New Hampshire), Giovanni Rossi (Department of Sociology, UCLA), Nadja Tadic (Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University), and Jason Turowetz (Department of Sociology, UCSB). The upcoming Winter webinar will continue to explore the teaching theme, focusing on teaching EMCA in languages other than English. Further reports and details of both the Fall and Winter webinars can be found later in this newsletter.

We are excited to invite you to explore the second edition of the “How I Came to EMCA” stories. If you have your own story to share, we would love to feature it in a future newsletter. Please consider sending your story to Liz Munday and Marat Zheng at [emca.asa@gmail.com](mailto:emca.asa@gmail.com)!

As a friendly reminder regarding the upcoming election, please note that all members whose memberships are active—and will remain active—between April 1 and June 1, 2026, will receive a ballot for the ASA-wide election, as well as for the Sections and Communities in which they hold membership. The final day to join ASA and/or a Section or Community in order to participate in the 2026 election is March 31.

As always, we encourage you to share with us your views on Section-related matters, including suggestions for webinar topics and newsletter features you would like to see in the future!

With best wishes,  
Satomi & Kevin

# Call for 2026 ASA Annual Meeting Submissions

The Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis is requesting paper submissions for the 2026 ASA Annual Meeting in New York City.



The ASA online paper submission portal is open, and closes February 25, 2026 at 9:00pm EST. Please visit [this link](#) for more information and submit a paper or extended abstract for our Section sessions so we can program as many papers as possible! Please be sure to select the EMCA Section Session as your first choice.

Contact Section Session organizers Satomi Kuroshima ([skuroshi@lab.tamagawa.ac.jp](mailto:skuroshi@lab.tamagawa.ac.jp)) and Kevin Whitehead ([kwhitehead@ucsb.edu](mailto:kwhitehead@ucsb.edu)) if you have questions or need help.

# Call For 2026 Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Awards

The Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis is requesting nominations for the following awards to be given at the 2026 ASA Annual Meeting in New York City.

## Garfinkel-Sacks Award for Distinguished Scholarship

This award recognizes those who have made distinguished lifetime career contributions to the fields of ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. To nominate an individual for this award, please submit the following:

1) A letter detailing the nominee's contributions to EMCA; 2) Relevant supporting materials, including a list of the nominee's publications; and 3) At least two additional external letters speaking to the person's contributions and impact on the field(s).

Please send nominations to John Heritage ([heritage@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:heritage@soc.ucla.edu)) by March 1, 2026.

## EMCA Distinguished Paper Award

This award recognizes an outstanding publication contributing to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. The 2026 award will be given to a paper. Eligible papers for the 2026 award must have a copyright date between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025, inclusively. Authors can submit their own publications, or nominations can be made on their behalf. Committee members may also make their own nominations.

Nominations must include 1) full bibliographic information on the nominated paper; and 2) a PDF (preferable) or hard copy of the paper, or a link to a website where it can be downloaded in full at no charge.

Please send nominations to Committee Chair, Tanya Stivers ([stivers@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:stivers@soc.ucla.edu)) by March 1, 2026.

## **EMCA Graduate Student Paper Award**

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This award recognizes an outstanding graduate student paper (either published or unpublished) that contributes to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. Eligible papers for the 2025 award must have been published or written between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025, inclusively. Authors can submit their own papers, or nominations can be made on their behalf. Committee members may also make their own nominations.

Nominations must include 1) full bibliographic information on the nominated paper; and 2) a PDF (preferable) or hard copy of the paper, or a link to a website where it can be downloaded in full at no charge.

Please send nominations to Committee Chair, Caroline Tietbohl ([caroline.tietbohl@cuanschultz.edu](mailto:caroline.tietbohl@cuanschultz.edu)) by March 1, 2026.

## **Melvin Pollner Memorial Prize**

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The Melvin Pollner Memorial Prize honors the intellectual spirit and memory of Melvin Pollner. The \$1000 award recognizes an article, chapter, or book with a copyright date between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025, inclusively, that develops original work drawing upon, or resonant with, Melvin Pollner's ethnomethodological interests in topics such as mundane reason, reality disjunctures, radical reflexivity, and the connections and contributions of ethnomethodology to other types of sociology. Authors can submit their own work, or nominations can be made on their behalf. Committee members may also make their own nominations.

Nominations must include 1) full bibliographic information on the nominated article, chapter or book; and 2) a PDF or hard copy of the article, chapter or book, or a link to a website where it can be downloaded in full at no charge.

Please send nominations to Committee Chair, Dirk Vom Lehn ([dirk.vom\\_lehn@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:dirk.vom_lehn@kcl.ac.uk)) by March 1, 2026.

# How I Came to EMCA

*by Stacy Lee Burns*

I was an undergraduate student at UCLA in the early 1970's when ethnomethodology (EM) was in its early development. I took classes with Harold Garfinkel, Manny Schegloff, and Melvin Pollner. As a Sociology major at UCLA, I was curious about how people interacted in the ways that they did. Sociology was fun and it turned out to be really interesting, especially after reading Harold Garfinkel's *Studies in Ethnomethodology* (1967).

I went to the first meeting of Harold's "Normal Environments" course that was restricted to Juniors and Seniors. I was a Sophomore, but after the class, I went up to Garfinkel and told him that I'd read his book over the preceding summer and very much wanted to take his class. He let me enroll and I researched and wrote several papers, including on different kinds of glossing practices, queuing (or waiting on line for service) that, with photos, turned out to be over 100 pages long! I was intrigued by Harold's enthusiasm for the kind of things I was interested in. In doing my studies, I acquired a deeper understanding of what Garfinkel talked about in his essay "What is ethnomethodology?" I was inspired by his ability to link with big theoretical issues, but also felt absorbed by the details of ethnographic practices and occasioned activities.

On my own, I collected many instances of naturally occurring 'horn honking,' including summons honks (e.g., when picking up a child in the morning for school), prompt honks (e.g., when the car in front fails to proceed after the light turns green), greeting honks (often with a 'second pair part' return greeting honk when the inhabitants of 2 passing cars recognize each other), sanction honks (after some perceived traffic infraction), etc., and I even ran to retrieve my tape recorder in order to capture an emergent and collective celebratory honk by multiple cars in a wedding procession line. To paraphrase Professor Garfinkel, I learned that the definiteness of sense and reference of each of these honks was inexorably tied to the unfolding and locally organized features and context out of which the honks emerged.

During my graduate training at UCLA, I attended Yale Law School to study the professional training practices of law and the ways of becoming a lawyer. That was the beginning of my fascination with EM and the start of my professional career in Sociology which I continue today as a Professor of Sociology with a legal bent at Loyola Marymount University.



Stacy Lee Burns

*Professor of Sociology, Loyola Marymount University, Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts*

# How I Came to EMCA

*by Robert Dingwall*



My involvement with EMCA is very ancient history. The sociology in my first degree (1968-71) was heavily influenced by Frankfurt Marxism – it amused colleagues years later that I could lecture on this as illness cover! However, the research group in Aberdeen where I did my PhD (1971-74) had several members with strong interests in Goffman and symbolic interactionism, who were open to the new ideas coming from the US. EMCA was much discussed by people like Phil Strong and Tony Wootton. George Psathas spent some time as a visitor, although I was doing fieldwork and didn't see much of him.

I also had the chance to attend the famous (or infamous) 1972 conference in Edinburgh where I saw Harvey Sacks from a distance when he presented 'The baby cried...'. David Sudnow and Roy Turner were there as well. My own thesis was more transitional, modelled on Virginia Olesen and Elvi Whittaker's phenomenologically-inflected study of the professional socialization of student nurses. I was then recruited to a research fellowship in Oxford with a group that included Max Atkinson, who had been one of the pioneers of EMCA in Manchester. Max was a great friend of John Heritage and an important link with UCLA. Anita Pomerantz worked in the group for a while and Gail Jefferson ran a couple of CA workshops.

In Oxford, I was able to do some quite full-on CA work on divorce mediation but generally my own research has not been as exclusively EMCA as I might have liked. Chasing grants, and wider professional service, did make it possible to open some doors for other people, though. I got lucky with some very talented graduate students like Alison Pilnick in CA or Neil Jenkins in EM. I was also able to secure an honorary degree for Harold Garfinkel from the University of Nottingham – I believe this was the only one he ever received.

Robert Dingwall

*Emeritus Professor, School of Social Sciences, Nottingham Trent University*

*Emeritus Professor and Founding Director, Institute of Science and Society, University of Nottingham*

Website:

<http://www.dingwallenterprises.co.uk/>

# Fall 2025 Webinar Recap

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## *Teaching Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis in English*

### **Webinar Recap: Teaching Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis in English**

Our Fall 2025 Section webinar kicked off the academic year with a lively and well-attended session on *Teaching Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis*. The event brought together a cross-disciplinary panel of four faculty members—Danielle Pillet-Shore (Department of Communication, University of New Hampshire), Giovanni Rossi (Department of Sociology, UCLA), Nadja Tadic (Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University), and Jason Turowetz (Department of Sociology, UCSB)—each of whom shared reflections on their own experiences introducing EMCA in the classroom.

The session was intentionally conversational, with panelists discussing everything from their practical methods of getting students engaged in CA to classroom practices that help students tune into the details of interaction. It was especially valuable to hear the variety of approaches across departments, as panelists spoke about tailoring syllabi, building accessible assignments, and encouraging students to engage directly with audio and video data. Some shared examples of assignments that bring interaction analysis into students' everyday lives, while others reflected on the broader pedagogical challenge of conveying EMCA's analytic rigor without defaulting to theoretical abstraction.

The turnout was one of our largest to date, and it was energizing to see so many members, both longtime educators and first-time instructors, engaging with the panel and one another. As always, the Section webinars aim to create informal, generative spaces for sharing work and thinking together. This session offered a valuable opportunity to reflect on teaching as a collective endeavor within our EMCA community.

Have ideas for future webinars? Let us know! Planning for the Spring 2026 webinar is underway, and we welcome suggestions about topics, formats, or participants that you'd like to see featured.

Liz & Marat

# Join Us for Our Winter 2026 Webinar

## *Teaching EMCA II: Instructing and Using Data in Non-English Languages*

**Tuesday | March 17, 2026**

**6:00-7:30 pm (US Pacific)**

**9:00-10:30 pm (US Eastern)**

The Winter 2026 webinar continues the series—which the Fall 2025 webinar initiated—of panel discussions on issues in teaching EMCA (ethnomethodology and conversation analysis). This time, we will be joined by another four experienced teachers (and eminent researchers) in the fields from universities outside of the United States. In addition to general pedagogical reflections (as with the Fall 2025 webinar), they will share unique experiences of teaching EMCA and incorporating data for illustration/assignments in languages other than English, in which most of the classical EMCA literature was written.

**Wednesday | March 18, 2026**

**9:00-10:30 am (China/Singapore)**

**10:00-11:30 am (Japan)**

**WEBINAR LINK HERE**

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### Panelists

**Guodong Yu**

*Linguistics, Ocean University of China (China)*

**K.K. Luke**

*Linguistics, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)*

**Ryo Okazawa**

*Socio-Information Studies, Shizuoka University (Japan)*

**Aug Nishizaka**

*Sociology, Chiba University (Japan)*

# Upcoming Conferences and Events

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

The International Conference of Conversation Analysis and Psychotherapy (ICCAP26) 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](#).

## 25th Conference on Discourse and Conversation Analysis: (March 25-27, 2026)

The 25th Arbeitstagung zur Gesprächsforschung (Conference on Discourse and Conversation Analysis) will take place from 25-27 March 2026 at the Leibniz Institute for the German Language (IDS) in Mannheim, Germany.

In 2026, the conference theme is “Technology use and social interaction: New interactive practices, new data and methods.”

The conference aims to offer researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds an opportunity to discuss interactional work on technology use in and for social interaction. For this reason, the main language of the conference will be English. We invite contributions that are based on empirical data and examine the situated use of various technologies in social interaction or technology-mediated interactions from a sequential perspective.

For more information, visit the conference [website](#).

# Upcoming Conferences and Events

## 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](#).

## Interactional Competences and Practices in a Second Language Conference (August 24-26, 2026)

The fifth Interactional Competences and Practices in a Second Language Conference (ICOP-L2) will be held at Newcastle University in the North-East of England, and hosted by the University's Applied Linguistics & Communication (ALC) research team. ALC at Newcastle has a long and proud history of research in social interaction research, and L2 interaction more specifically, dating back over 20 years. Plenary speakers include Silvia Kunitz, Paul Seedhouse, and Daniel Lam.

Additionally, the conference will have Research Connect sessions dedicated to creating links between early career researchers and more experienced academics. These sessions are designed to help you build meaningful connections, exchange insights and discuss new opportunities.

Abstract submission is now open. Please submit an abstract through the [submission portal](#).

Submission deadline is 20th February 2026. For more information, visit the conference [website](#).

# Call for Book Proposals: ASA Rose Series in Sociology

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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](mailto:roseseries@albany.edu) or reach out to a member of our editorial team: Joanna Dreby ([jdreby@albany.edu](mailto:jdreby@albany.edu)), Aaron Major ([amajor@albany.edu](mailto:amajor@albany.edu)), Katherine Trent ([ktrent@albany.edu](mailto:ktrent@albany.edu)), and Steve Messner ([smessner@albany.edu](mailto:smessner@albany.edu)).

# Connect with the EMCA Community

*How Members Can Contribute to the Newsletter*

## How I Came to EMCA Stories

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Every scholar has an origin story about how they first discovered ethnomethodology and conversation analysis. We're collecting short reflections (250 to 300 words) from members across career stages to highlight the diverse paths that have led people into the field. What first drew you in—a class, a mentor, a reading, or an unexpected turn in research? Share your story, your moment of discovery, or what continues to keep you inspired, and help us showcase the richness and diversity of our EMCA community.

## Promoting Events & Publications

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Have an upcoming event or recent publication you'd like to share with the EMCA community? We welcome submissions for the ASA EMCA Section newsletter, including announcements about conferences, panels, talks, or new books. These features highlight members' ongoing work and help keep the community connected. For book announcements, please include a short description and a high-resolution image of the cover.

To share your story, event, or publication with the EMCA community, contact Liz Munday and Marat Zheng at [emca.asa@gmail.com](mailto:emca.asa@gmail.com).

# 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 2026 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](mailto:membership@asanet.org).

