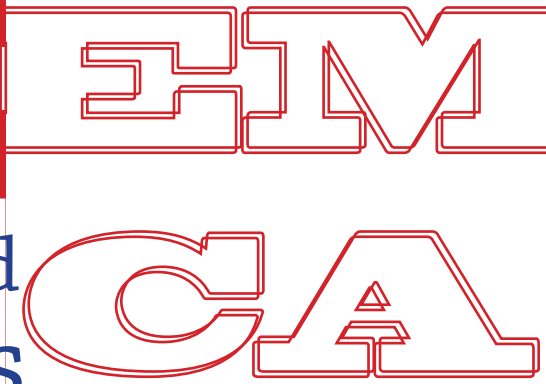


# The Official Newsletter of the American Sociological Association Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis



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## A message from the Co-Chairs:

Dear EMCA Community,

We want to first to thank outgoing Co-Chairs Ken Liberman and Aug Nishizaka for all of their great work organizing the Section over the past two years.

We are issuing a Call for paper submissions to our Section Sessions (and Regular Sessions) for the 2019 ASA Meetings in New York City. The Sessions are described below and we encourage everyone to submit. The submissions portal is now open and will close on January 9th at 11:59 PM. If you are unclear about what the session titled mean please email us.

When you go to the Section submission portal you will see two titles:

The first reads: "Current Research in Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis". This is a one hour session that will take up one hour of our business meeting slot. For this session we are hoping for papers reporting on current studies in EM and/or CA that push knowledge into new areas and contribute to the combined body of knowledge that is EM/CA.

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## A message from the Co-Chairs (Cont'd)

The second reads: “Implications of Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis”. This will be a full session. Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis both have origins in the work of Garfinkel and Sacks. Both approaches focus on the details of how ordinary everyday practices and conversation are accomplished. EM and CA share a distinctive analytic position within sociology that has important implications across many different areas of sociology. We welcome papers that add to what we know about any aspect of this work, and/or its implications for sociology and social theory more broadly.

Anne Rawls ([arawls@bentley.edu](mailto:arawls@bentley.edu)) is listed as the organizer of both sessions for simplicity, but both Co-Chairs will be reading the submissions and organizing the sessions. You can reach Morana at [malac@ucsd.edu](mailto:malac@ucsd.edu). The idea with regard to the titles was to be as open and inclusive as possible. We do not mean to exclude any work. If you have questions about whether or not a paper would be suitable please email one of us.

The overall theme of the ASA meeting is “Engaging Social Justice for a Better World”. We had hoped to have a thematic session at these meetings, but we did not manage to secure one. However, we would encourage anyone who has a paper that addresses the meeting theme to please submit it. With our community, it could be possible that we have enough for a full session. If not, maybe the regular session in Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis can pick the papers up and form a session.

All papers should be submitted either to one of the two Section Sessions or to the Regular Sessions on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis. The Regular Sessions are organized by Ken Liberman ([liberman@uoregon.edu](mailto:liberman@uoregon.edu)) and Tanya Stivers ([Stivers@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:Stivers@soc.ucla.edu)). If you plan to submit to a Regular Session, please feel free to contact either Ken or Tanya with your questions.

Whichever session you choose, make sure that you select the other as a backup so we can maximize what we accept! If that process is unclear, please email one of the organizers.

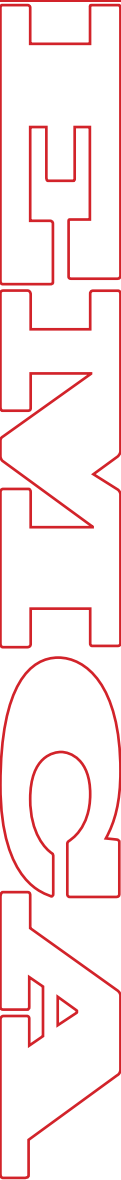
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## A message from the Co-Chairs (Cont'd)

As always, if you have any questions about the sessions, or want to run questions by us please email us well ahead of the submission date. There are many potential sessions between the Section and the Regular Sessions if enough good papers are submitted. As for the general relationship between EM and CA and the general theme of Social Justice we leave you with the following thoughts: EM/CA research produces knowledge about how the world works and that knowledge has implications. If those making policy decisions understood the world the way we do, policy would be different. We are as always hoping to get papers that document the usual sorts of EM/CA discoveries. The difference for this conference would be that you might also think about how some social justice issue would be handled differently if everybody knew what you are telling us about how the world works. We are not envisioning that you would do the research differently, or organize the analysis differently, but rather think about the implications of what you have done. It is not a requirement in any case.

To quote the social activist Ady Barkan: “Social justice means creating a stable floor beneath our feet and then putting a safety net under that, to catch us if it suddenly vanishes”. How should the EM/CA understanding that formal institutions (and rules/laws) can’t organize anything unless people commit to informal norms and expectations affect policy? In the age of Trump that should be obvious: How should the amazing detail involved in organizing communication and institutional accountability affect policy? How can our our work get us to a more sound understanding of what is ethical? Many EMCA projects might touch on these questions directly or indirectly. Maybe someone is studying how Trump’s rhetoric works, or the circulation of false narrative, or the collapse of formal institutions as norms and practices are disregarded.

New York City is a particularly appropriate setting for a theme of diversity and justice. We hope to see you there in summer 2019!



## Further Announcements

### Membership Drive

Our section needs to get its membership up. We want to remind everyone to renew their membership to the section for the coming year. We also encourage every section member to identify one person who you can convince to join the section. If you know someone who is an existing member of ASA, they need only add the section and pay the section fee. You can also encourage graduate students to join. Their fees are minimal, and you can help them with those fees. If every section member finds one other person to join, the section would double in size.

### New EMCA Journal Has Commenced Publication

There is some very good news in the EMCA world. There is a new journal dedicated to the analysis of the fine-grained local details that people use to organize the orderliness of their lives, and it is equally dedicated to *the presentation of video* that documents that detail, both of them together side-by-side.

The journal is *Social Interaction: Video-Based Studies of Human Sociality* (<https://tidsskrift.dk/socialinteraction>). Based in Denmark and edited by Kristian Mortensen and Brian Due, it publishes exclusively online. They are interested in publishing research from an ethnomethodological and/or CA perspective. And the further good news is that, as a new journal, the turnaround time from submission to acceptance is currently short.

The best news of all is that this format allows one to argue from inside one's data. This relieves some of the reductions and abbreviations necessary for our printed articles. Our section members will be eager to take advantage of this new way to think and present inquires.

