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

Autumn 2016

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Dear EMCA community,

After a successful ASA conference (see report by Donald Everhart, this issue), the EMCA Section has undergone its biannual hand-off of co-chairs, from the wonderfully competent and reliable Robert Dingwall and Mardi Kidwell to two neophytes who are operating as best they can, just like deer in the headlights.

Our Section has a critical mass for some fabulous collaboration, with our membership about equally divided among those who mostly do EM, those who mostly do CA, and those who do both. There is sufficient new blood in all three categories to insure the survival of this unique adventure into the micro-orders, but we need to become more generous in listening to each other and make sincere efforts to collaborate more. We can disagree with each other and still remain collaborators (just ask the Manchester lot about how that is done). Looking at the most recent section member report compiled by the ASA, the number of our section's current members amounts to 131 in total, 2 persons up from the last year, but still below the requirements. What does this number mean? The top four sections, with over one thousand members, are Sex and Gender, Sociology of Culture, Medical Sociology, and Organizations, Occupation and Work. ...con't next page!...

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#### Autumn 2016

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In fact, most of the sections are formed around a particular topic. Sections based on particular 'theoretical' or 'methodological' orientations are quite rare - perhaps only two out of fifty-two: ours and Marxist Sociology. In any case, it is very nice for more than hundred people to be rallied around a common interest in a particular set of theoretical/methodological attitudes and practices.

The young Marx wrote: "Political economy proceeds from the fact of private property, but it does not explain it to us. It expresses in general, abstract formulae the material process through which private property actually passes." One of Garfinkel's messages may be that we have to deal with the "material process" (i.e., the local order or all the details of practices) ignored by the traditional sociology but through which individual actions are actually achieved. His research policy was intended as more sociological than traditional sociology and in fact his influence (and our influence) on sociology was invaluable. However, this special positioning of EMCA in sociology may make some people hesitant to join the EMCA community, or require of them an 'existential choice' to do so. We should consider ways that our section can be made more open to those interested in EMCA but do not have a strong commitment to it. This would not only increase our numbers but also increase our influence.

Another problem for us is that our members are not stable; many names that used to be on the section roster have disappeared from the current one. Also, there are many EMCA people in Europe who are not involved in ASA yet. We are aware that the past section co-chairs have struggled to maintain and further develop the diversity within the section. We hope we will be able to continue their struggle. However, the most important thing is that we have many presentations of high quality at each annual meeting. We would appreciate section members' enthusiasm to submit their papers for the next ASA meeting in Montreal. We hope that next year's ASA meeting will be an occasion for dialogue, since we will be celebrating both the 50th anniversary of Studies in Ethnomethodology and the 25th anniversary of the hardback publication of Harvey Sacks's Lectures. We are planning some interesting panels, including an invited panel on "The Relevance of Garfinkel's Studies for EMCA Research Today" that will feature Mike Lynch, Geoffrey Raymond, Eric Livingston, and Johannes Wagner, and also an evening commemorating the centenary of Harold Garfinkel's birth. And that is in addition to the other panels we will organize and of course the magic of that city.

EM and CA practitioners share an Alaskan Gold Rush miner's zeal for locating and describing the immanent details that people use to organize the orderliness of local interaction. This is what Manny always shared with Harold: a Talmudic eye for uncovering the huge consequences that the "the details of little, local sequences" (Heritage 1984: 290) of interaction can have upon ordinary affairs. It was a collegial bond between them that they never surrendered. And, of course, they were not shy about criticizing each other either. We can emulate them. We have entered the new membership year for ASA, and with our small numbers we need to slightly increase our membership. The least expensive way to do this is to sponsor student memberships and to ask your colleagues who already belong to ASA to add the EMCA Section to their subscriptions. Student memberships are especially valuable because they bring a lot of new energy and willingness to contribute, which will insure a successful future for us. So please take a moment and think of one or two young scholars you would like to encourage to join in the fun. This requires only a small effort but will be a big help. Your co-chairs,



#### **ASA 2016 Reflections**

#### Donald Everhart, UC San Diego, USA

Reflecting on the 2016 ASA meeting after a few weeks, I remain struck by the coherence of the regular ethnomethodology session. This coherence merits particular attention in light of recent discussions of the radical character of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis. By writing about coherence, I don't mean to say that the session was oriented around a single topic. After all, the session had presentations on police videos and popular vision (Michael Lynch); practical organization in surgical operations (Satomi Kuroshima); assessments in opticians' offices and encounters with art exhibits (Dirk vom Lehn); bioinformaticians' disputes in laboratory meeting (Donald Everhart); and bureaucratic, algorithmic, and common sense geography (Patrick Watson). Rather, the coherence that emerged from the session coalesced around the practical, lived character of evidence.

Concerning the multiple possibilities of interpreting evidence during a diagnostic situation, I would also like to mention **Doug Maynard** and **Jason Turowitz's** work on autism diagnosis. They offered an example in which either speaker could be understood as issuing directives or counter directives, depending on which party is understood as the first speaker. In light of the ethnomethodology panel's interest in evidence, we might reconsider where an action begins and how members recognize the beginning or end of actions. To bring together interests of Maynard and Lynch at this conference, we might consider how videos of officer involved shootings begin and proceed. A police video might be released with a different length (containing a corresponding difference in its beginning and conclusion) than a video recorded by another observer.

A striking example of such a difference might be seen between the Charlotte Police Department's body camera footage and Rakeiya Scott's recording of her husband's death (1). As in Maynard and Turowitz's diagnostic situations, who is seen as initiating and directing actions might well have an impact on the reception of such videos.

Amelia Hill's discussion during the first CA session likewise concerned topic initiation and relevance in her exploration of occasioned uses of race, with her work largely exploring emergency telephone calls. Considered in relation to themes of evidence and relevance conditions, the calls in Hill's database might be understood as a mix of performative, narrative, and reflexive work. Callers could be seen as existing in multiple, overlapping situations, both in-person as an observer of a perceived threat, and over the phone as someone attempting to make relevant that threat to a call taker.

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1: For more details on the police killing of Keith Lamont Scott, and a transcript of the video, see <a href="http://www.democracynow.org/2016/9/23/video\_nbc\_releases\_wifes\_cellphone\_footage">http://www.democracynow.org/2016/9/23/video\_nbc\_releases\_wifes\_cellphone\_footage</a>

...In the second CA session, **Ed Reynolds** and **Bryn Evans's** joint talk illustrated ways in which relevance is achieved through embodied action. Where work such as Lynch's or Hill's examined more distributed or mediated action, Reynolds and Evans grounded their analysis in the ways that a phenomenal field may be made available for action, instruction, and correction in vividly co-present situations. The ways that basketball coaches or powerlifting instructors manipulate the bodies of their students make sophisticated uses of both bodies and time, in terms of the just-having-happened, the imminence of embodied adjustment, and projected glosses on the practical competency to be learned.

Within the history of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis, we might consider evidence, relevance, and action to be regular themes. Throughout this year's ASA meeting, we might understand multiple investigators to be examining these themes both through mediated, distributed situations (as in phone calls, the release of videos of officer involved shootings, or over time during political deliberations over geography) or in co-present situations of embodied interaction (as in laboratory meetings, surgical theaters, gyms and basketball courts,

#### -Donald Everhart

#### Amelia Hill, UC Los Angeles, USA

opticians' offices and art museums).

I think my favorite presentation was **Dirk vom Lehn's**, about how people "experiment" with each other to achieve a mutual point of focus (to see something together). One obvious highlight was the reception, where **John [Heritage]** accepted the lifetime achievement award. There were some very touching speeches from his colleagues and he was presented with the book **Jeff Robinson** and others put together in his honor.

The business meeting was also pretty interesting—there was discussion about changing the award's name from "Lifetime Achievement" to something like the "Garfinkel Sacks Award." The idea received some push back from at least one person who was concerned the weight of "lifetime achievement" would be lost but it otherwise had wide support and I'm pretty sure it passed.

There was also an agenda item about making the section more socially cohesive. One idea was to have member information available on the webpage. I suggested some kind of mentoring program, and it seemed like there was interest but someone said they've done something like that in the past and no one used it. I think it's worth pursuing.

More ASA 2016 Reflections next page...

#### **ASA 2016 Reflections**

#### Amanda McArthur, UC Los Angeles, USA

I really enjoyed the EM/CA reception, which was at the Yard House. It was nice to have the time and space to mingle socially with other attendees and presenters. I love having opportunities to get nerdy and/or wax philosophical about ethno/CA with other researchers in ways that we don't always get a chance to in our everyday academic lives.

It was also really nice to hear all the things people said about John [Heritage] (and he about them) when he accepted his lifetime achievement award. It was touching, and also a nice window into a tight-knit field that I'm only just beginning to get to know! I also loved the workshop on teaching ethno/CA, led by Virginia Gill and Steve Clayman. As a TA of CA, it was nice to hear how they go about introducing new undergrads to ethnomethodology/CA in the short amount of time we have with them, and the reasoning that goes into presenting certain readings or data excerpts or real-world exercises to provoke a certain kind of thinking. It was also really great when the discussion was opened up to all of us in the room... we shared challenges and also little tricks of the trade we've learned along the way. Our home communities can be so small, it was nice to share and commiserate as a group.

I really enjoy seeing how ethno/CA can shed new light on how injustices are *done* at various points in our justice system, especially because I don't get to spend time with that kind of data myself as a medical person, but I think it's such an important application of our method. So I really enjoyed **Amelia [Hill]'s** talk on the uses of race in 911 calls, and **Gary David's** talk on police interrogations. I was much more familiar with Amelia's work going into this, since we're classmates at UCLA. But in Gary David's talk, it was interesting to see the application of epistemic status/stance in this unique context, where interrogators deliberately manipulate their displayed epistemic status relative to the suspect's when they ask them questions to get a confession.





# We need your input! Please Review the New Section By-Laws!

These will affect your committee, awards, and elections

Sociologists are often bit dismissive of documents like this – but the Executive is trying to carry out an exercise in participatory democracy so please do take a few minutes to look over this draft and think about whether there is anything you would like to change.

Why do we need new By-Laws?

The current section by-laws were drafted to make a number of transitional provisions as we moved from the ad hoc committee of a section-in-formation to a recognized section. In some respects, they also anticipated a larger membership than we have actually sustained. As a result some parts are now irrelevant and others have not really

worked as they were intended. This means that we do not comply fully with ASA requirements and have operating practices that are not firmly authorized by our own rules.

#### The new draft

This sticks very closely to the ASA template, with some modifications to suit the size of the membership. The rules authorize a much smaller Executive, which we have been trying to create anyway, and the simplified processes for nominating candidates for offices, elections and award committees that we have used informally. There are some suggested transitional provisions for sorting out the tangle on terms of office that prompted the revision – please look particularly closely at these.

#### The Process

ASA are cutting us some slack in the interests of getting the revision on the ballot for final authorization in spring 2017. We should really have discussed all this at the Seattle Business Meeting, but it has been agreed that there can be an online consultation with the membership before the Executive adopts a text, which then has to be approved by the ASA Committee on Sections and the ASA Executive Council early in the new year. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email Robert Dingwall, past Co-Chair, who is co-ordinating this process at robert.dingwall@ntlworld.com before October 30.

#### -Robert Dingwall

# By-laws on next page...

## **Proposed By-laws:**

#### Article I. Name

The Section shall be known as the Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis (hereafter EMCA).

#### Article II. Purpose

The Section on EMCA seeks to facilitate communication, expand networks, and provide a forum for intellectual exchange and debate among both established and early-career sociologists, scholars, and teachers. The Section welcomes members with an interest in learning more about, and contributing to, research and scholarship in the broad traditions of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis.

#### Article III. Council and Officers

The principal governing body of the Section shall be the Council, which shall consist of six members, elected by vote of the section members. Elected members shall serve staggered three-year terms. No Council member may be re-elected until two years shall have elapsed from the end of their previous term.

The elected Officers of the Section shall be a Chair or Co-Chairs, Past Chair or Co-Chairs, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Council. The Chair or Co-Chairs shall serve a term of two years and then remain on the Council for a further two years as Past Chair or Co-Chairs. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve a three-year term, which may be renewed once. No Officer may be re-elected until two years shall have elapsed from the end of their previous maximum term.

The Chair or Co-Chairs shall conduct Council meetings and plan Section Activities, in consultation with the Council. The Secretary-Treasurer shall take and circulate minutes of Council meetings while keeping and presenting official documents and financial records of the Section.

If an elected Office is vacated or a Council members is elected to an Office before the term is completed, the candidate with the next highest vote count is invited to fill the open position for the remainder of the term. If no such candidate is available, the Council may co-opt a regular member of the Section to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. A co-opted members shall be eligible for re-election for a three-year term to follow their period of service.

The Council may from time to time create other positions to manage Section affairs, including but not restricted to a Newsletter Editor and a Web/Social Media Editor. The Chair will appoint members to such positions in consultation with other officers and subject to confirmation by the Council.

All regular members of the Section are eligible for election as Officers.

#### Article IV. Powers of the Council

The Council is vested with the power to carry out all necessary operations of the Section, acting as representatives of the members of the Section. To that end, it shall meet on the occasion of the ASA Annual Meeting and may meet at other times when more than half of the Council can be assembled, whether in person or through electronic means. The Council shall make decisions by majority rule of its assembled members.

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#### Article V. Referenda

Questions to be brought before the Section membership for approval may originate with the Council itself (if requested by at least three Council members), by a petition of 10 percent of the Section membership, or by 25 members of the Section (whichever is less). Any resolution passed by the annual Business Meeting of the Section and not subsequently accepted by the Council shall automatically be submitted to a vote of the Section membership.

#### Article VI. Elections and Voting

The elections of the Section shall be carried out in concurrence with the American Sociological Association and coordinated with its schedule. Newly elected officers and Council members shall assume office on the day following the annual Business Meeting of the Section at the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting.

#### Article VII. Nomination Committee

Each year, the Section Chair or Co-Chairs shall appoint a member of Council as chair of a Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee chair shall appoint two other members, who may be other members of Council but may not be currently serving as a Section officer. No member of the committee shall serve for more than two consecutive years. The Nominations Committee shall present at least two candidates for each Office or Council vacancy to be voted on by the members of the Section.

#### Article VIII. Nomination by Petition

Members of the Section may be nominated for any office by a petition of ten percent of the members of the Section or 25 members of the Section, whichever is less. The choices of the Nominations Committee for each office shall be made known to the membership at least 60 days prior to the deadline for receiving nominations by petition.

#### Article IX. Award Committees

The Nominations Committee shall appoint committee chairs for each of the various section awards. Committee chairs may not be Officers but may be Council Members. Committee chairs shall appoint two other section members to their award committee. No individual may serve for more than one year as a chair or committee member for a specific award and may not be reappointed to that award committee until at least one year has elapsed. The Section will make the following awards: Best paper by a graduate student (annual); best paper/best book in EMCA (in alternating years); Melvin Pollner Memorial Prize for an outstanding book, article, or chapter that addresses issues relating to ethnomethodology in the inclusive sense reflected in Pollner's intellectual and research concerns (annual); Garfinkel/Sacks Award for Distinguished Scholarship (annual).

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#### Article X. Membership

Any member of the American Sociological Association, without regard to the classification of membership, may become a member of the Section. Only full members or student members in good standing may be elected as Officers or Council members.

#### Article XI. Dues

Dues shall be in accord with minimum requirements as set by the American Sociological Association.

#### Article XII. Amendment of the By-Laws

Amendment of the Section By-Laws requires, first, discussion of proposed changes at an annual meeting of the Section; second, approval by a majority of the Council (including ex officio members); third, approval by the Committee on Sections and ASA Council; fourth, approval of a majority of those voting in a vote submitted to all Section members.

#### **Article XIII Transitional Provisions**

This Article modifies Article III and will expire on the day following the Section Business Meeting in 2019.

In 2017, two Council members will retire. Elections will be held to replace these members for three-year terms.

In 2018, five Council members retire. Lots will be drawn among those members at the Section Business Meeting in 2017 to determine three members to retire in that year and two members to continue in office until 2018. Elections will be held in 2018 for two members to serve three-year terms.

In 2019, the members extended in 2018 will retire. Elections will be held to replace these members for three-year terms.

Remember: If you have any comments or suggestions, please email Robert Dingwall, past Co-Chair, who is co-ordinating this process at <a href="mailto:robert.dingwall@ntlworld.com">robert.dingwall@ntlworld.com</a> **before October 30.** 



# EMCA

#### **EMCA Legacy Website**

#### emca-legacy.info

EMCA-legacy.info was created in 2014 to share the sound files and transcriptions of Harold Garfinkel's 1975 Boston seminars. Ken Liberman and George Psathas had probably the last existing copy of tape and transcription and we decided at the University of Southern Denmark to use our resources to 'clean' the recordings and update the existing transcription. When the question came up where the material could be archived, Brian MacWhinney from Carnegie Mellon University was willing to host audio files and transcriptions at TALKBANK.org. The website EMCA-legacy.info was created to provide a simple link to the material.

Short time after we received more files: George Psathas gave us an early lecture by Gail Jefferson (which later became the *Poetics* paper). Maurice Nevile transcribed the recording. Video and transcription are now hosted by TALKBANK.org. Ken Liberman let us add several of the lectures he gave at our research seminars. Recently, Peter Eglin and David Francis prepared an electronic version of the late Stephen Hester's book-length manuscript *Descriptions of Deviance* that will be available on the site very soon.

*EMCA-legacy.info* collects links to historically significant EMCA materials. Usually, the site will not host data. Files will be stored on TALKBANK or YOUTUBE. *EMCA-legacy.info* should be the easy connection to EMCA material. To make the site better, we urge colleagues to share relevant material by pointing us to existing links. If material is not available on the net yet but stored in a forgotten box, please send us the recording and what transcriptions you might have. We hope to add material to the site regularly.

#### **Recent Books**

Cohen, I.J. (2016). Solitary Action: Acting on Our Own in Everyday Life. New York: Oxford University Press.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- Nov. 10-11, Philadelphia, USA: **102**<sup>nd</sup> **National Communication Association: Communication's civic callings**. <a href="http://www.nca-lsi.org/">http://www.nca-lsi.org/</a>
- Nov. 18, University of Copenhagen, Denmark: **Copenhagen Multimodality Day**. <a href="http://circd.ku.dk/calender/multimodality2016/">http://circd.ku.dk/calender/multimodality2016/</a>
- Nov. 23-25, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway: 4th Nordic Interdisciplinary Conference on Discourse and Interaction (NORDISCO). http://www.hf.uio.no/iln/english/research/news-and-events/events/conferences/2016/nordisco/
- Nov. 30-Dec. 2, University of Melbourne, Australia: 10<sup>th</sup> Australasian Institute of Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis (AIEMCA) Conference. <a href="https://aiemca.org/">https://aiemca.org/</a>
- Dec. 19, Loughborough University, UK: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CA Day Conversation rules. <a href="http://homepages.lboro.ac.uk/~ssca1/CADay2016//CADay2016.html">http://homepages.lboro.ac.uk/~ssca1/CADay2016//CADay2016.html</a>
- Jan. 18-20, 2017, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland: **Interactional Competences and Practices in a Second Language**. <u>www.unine.ch/ICOP\_L2</u>
- Mar. 29-31, 2017. Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim, Germany: **20th Arbeitstagung zur Gesprächforschung/Conversation and Discourse Analysis: Interaction and Media.** <a href="http://tagung.gespraechsforschung.de/">http://tagung.gespraechsforschung.de/</a>
- May 11-13 2017, Helsinki, Finland: Intersubjectivity in action. http://blogs.helsinki.fi/iia-2017/
- Jul. 10-13, 2017. Otterbein University, Westerville, USA: IIEMCA 2017. <a href="http://www.iiemca.org/">http://www.iiemca.org/</a>
  <a href="http://www.iiemca.org/">wp\_live/conferences-workshops/next-conference</a>
- Jul. 12-14, 2017. University of Bristol, UK. 6th International Meeting on Conversation Analysis and Clinical Encounters (CACE). Further info TBA.
- Jul. 11-15, 2018, Loughborough University, UK: ICCA. http://icca2018.org

#### **Upcoming Workshops**

- Oct. 18-20, York University, UK: **Developing CA skills 4: Word selection**. <a href="https://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/shortcourses/">https://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/shortcourses/</a>
- Nov. 4, Loughborough University, UK: **CA Transcription workshop**. <a href="http://www.carmtraining.org/ca-transcription">http://www.carmtraining.org/ca-transcription</a>
- Nov. 6-7, Rutgers University, USA: Analyzing medical interaction (pre-NCA workshop). <a href="http://rucal.rutgers.edu/workshops/">http://rucal.rutgers.edu/workshops/</a>
- Jan. 25-26, 2017, Loughborough University, UK: **CARM Training**. <a href="http://www.carmtraining.org/carm-training">http://www.carmtraining.org/carm-training</a>

#### Calls for Papers: Conferences

#### HEMCA 2017.

Otterbein University, Westerville, USA, Jul. 10-13, 2017.

http://www.iiemca.org/\_wp\_live/conferences-workshops/next-conference

DEADLINE for abstracts and panel proposals, Nov. 15, 2016.

## 20th Arbeitstagung zur Gesprächforschung/Conversation and Discourse Analysis: Interaction and Media.

Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim, Germany, Mar. 29-31, 2017.

http://tagung.gespraechsforschung.de/

DEADLINE for abstracts, Nov. 18, 2016.

#### 2017 International Association for Dialogue Analysis (IADA)

University of Bologna, Italy, Oct. 11-14, 2017

https://eventi.unibo.it/international-conference-iada-bologna2017/submission

DEADLINE for papers Nov. 30, 2016

#### New Horizons in the Ethnography of Communication

Riverdale (NY), USA, Jun. 6-8, 2017

https://www.academia.edu/26904132/

CFP\_New\_Horizons\_in\_the\_Ethnography\_of\_Communication\_Conference

DEADLINE for panels, papers, working sessions, data sessions, research in progress, and class activity sessions Jan. 3, 2017. <a href="mailto:newhorizonsinec@gmail.com">newhorizonsinec@gmail.com</a>

#### iMean 5 Conference on Language and Change

University of West England (Bristol), UK, Apr. 6-8, 2017.

http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/cahe/research/bristolcentreforlinguistics/i-mean.aspx

DEADLINE for panels, Dec. 1 2016, for papers Jan. 5, 2017.

#### 10th Biennial International Society of Critical Health Psychology (ISCHP) Conference

Loughborough University, UK, Jul. 9-12, 2017.

http://ischp2017.weebly.com/

Multiple deadlines. DEADLINES for abstracts, Jan. 31, 2017.

#### 6th International Meeting on Conversation Analysis and Clinical Encounters (CACE)

University of Bristol, UK, Jul. 12-14, 2017. Deadlines and further info TBA.



#### Directions in Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Series

Submissions of monographs and edited collections are invited to the Series. For questions or submissions, contact K. Neil Jenkings (neil.jordan@tandf.co.uk) and/ or Andrew P. Carlin (a.carlin@mmu.ac.uk). For more information, see Andrew Carlin's ROLSI blog here: https://rolsi.net/2016/08/29/guest-blog-andrew-carlinon-the-directions-in-ethnomethodology-and-conversation-analysis-series/



# Graduate Biographies from Around the World



#### Claire Feeney, Loughborough University, UK

A first year doctoral researcher at Loughborough University, I'm studying business interactions using conversation analysis for a project sponsored jointly by the University and a government organisation.

I graduated with a first class BSc Hons Psychology from Lincoln University in 2015 having returned to study after a few more gap years than are usual. I'd had a career in administration and marketing and worked in logistics in the automotive industry before establishing my own recruitment and human resource consultancy. After studying with the Open University towards a BSc in Natural Sciences for several years, I switched to psychology when the opportunity arose to attend University full time. There I was introduced to discourse and conversation analysis by Dr Ava Horowitz, a Loughborough alumnus, and some fascinating work on political interviewing led directly to my search for a CA-based research project.

Supervised by Prof. Alberto Franco of the School of Business & Economics and Prof. Liz Stokoe, I'm a regular participant at DARG data sessions, and have already been able to attend workshops led by Liz Stokoe and Rein Sikveland, and Paul Drew, John Heritage and Chase Raymond.

My research seeks to identify what does and does not work in pitches to customers and the question and answer sessions that follow them, and will ultimately inform the development of evidence-based training and practice improvements. I'm also working with some data from the TV programme Dragons' Den, looking at some features such as hostile questioning and the use of humour in Q&As, comparing successful pitches with those that do not gain investment.



#### Claire Melia, Keele University, UK

My name is Claire Melia and I am a first-year PhD candidate at Keele University. I completed my BSc in Psychology and Criminology at Keele and viewed research as a compulsory and monotonous aspect of my course. However, I was introduced to CA during my final year project which studied couple's interactions and how laughter was used to mitigate and amicably terminate conflict. This project provided me with a new interest in research and I have been honing my CA skills with Dr Alexandra Kent ever since.

In January I will graduate from Keele with an MSc in Psychology of Health and Wellbeing. Throughout my MSc I used CA to study student counsellor's use of



reinterpretations within client-centered therapy with the aim of working with course leaders to create recommendations on effective counselling communication. Alongside my course, I worked as a research assistant on a CA project surrounding police 999 and 101 calls which developed my skills and gave me further insight into the professional side of research.



In September I began my PhD studying ways practitioners discuss treatment options with Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) patients to encourage treatment adherence. I am also Social Science editor for the Under Construction @Keele Journal and currently focusing on building my publication portfolio whilst presenting my research and attending relevant events such as ICCAP and EMCA events. I'm constantly on the lookout for new opportunities to meet or work with other early CA researchers, so my e-mail inbox is always open! c.r.melia@keele.ac.uk

# Submit your biography and get it published in the EMCA Section Newsletter!

You or your graduate students should consider writing a biography for the newsletter. We're always looking for more biographies.

Please submit to them to the newsletter editor, Emily Hofstetter, at e.c.hofstetter@lboro.ac.uk. We'll put it in the next available slot!

# You should become a member of

# The American Sociological Association Section on Ethnomethodology and **Conversation Analysis**

#### Section Membership Form

For ASA Membership information and to join *or* renew online, visit:

ASA Membership Dues	Name:
□ Regular \$50-\$360 (sliding scale, based on income) □ Associate \$103	Address:
☐ Student \$50	
□ Emeritus \$50	
□ International \$55	Email:
Mail to:	
Membership Services	☐ I am an ASA Member and wan
American Sociological Association	to join the Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section. Enclosed is a check for \$10.00 (\$5.00 for students) for 2016 section dues.
1430 K Street, NW - Suite 600	
Washington DC 20 005	
	Make checks payable to American Sociological Association (and please put 'EMCA section dues' on the memo