

Fall-Winter/Dec '09  
Volume 4 ~ Issue 1

# EMCA news

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
SECTION ON ETHNOMETHODOLOGY AND CONVERSATION ANALYSIS

## 2009 - 2010 Section Officers

### Co-Chairs

**Angela Cora Garcia**

Bentley University  
agarcia@bentley.edu

**Jack Whalen**

jackwhalen@mac.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

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New England Research Institutes  
klutfey@neriscience.com

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Bentley University  
gdavid@bentley.edu

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Illinois State University  
Vtgill@ilstu.edu

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mpevrot@loyola.edu

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Univ. CA - Santa Barbara (UCSB)  
graymond@soc.ucsb.edu

**Tanya Stivers**

Max Planck Institute for  
Psycholinguistics  
Tanya.Stivers@mpi.nl

## EMCA Membership Drive

2008-09 was another productive year for our section, with exciting and very well attended sessions at the annual meeting (two of our sessions had standing room only), an effective awards program, the establishment of the Pollner award fund which was made possible by a generous donation to the section, and the expanded publication schedule of our section newsletter with three issues a year being published for the first time. Our well attended section sessions included five sessions organized by Anita Pomerantz and Tanya Stivers, an invited section session organized by Tim Berard, a session organized by Chris Henke, a session organized by Nick Llewellyn, (and a related session which was relevant to ethnomethodological research organized by Kimberly McClain DaCosta).

In addition, the section awarded its second Lifetime Achievement award at the San Francisco annual meetings. Professor Emeritus George Psathas received the Lifetime Achievement award, Dr. Eric Livingston won the distinguished publication award for his book *Ethnographies of Reason* (Ashgate Publishers), and Kaoru Hayano won the Graduate Student paper competition, with Federico Rossano and Helena Webb receiving honorable mentions.

The Section is working hard to get the word out about our section's activities and has launched an international membership recruitment drive. . . *see "MEMBERSHIP" continued on page 2*

**The Section is working hard to get the word out about our section's activities and has launched an international membership recruitment drive**

**IN  
THIS  
ISSUE**

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... EMCA Announcements  
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    ... *EMCA Annual Awards*  
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... Section Calendar of Events  
    ... *now including Deadlines*  
... ASA Atlanta, 2010  
    ... (and!) **ASA CHICAGO, 2011**

Submissions for the next issue  
(Spring / Mar-Apr)  
should be sent

**By: March 24, 2010**

To: Ingrid Li  
(managing editor)

ingridli@umail.ucsb.edu

# EMCA SECTION Announcements

*MEMBERSHIP cont'd from page 1*

EMCA Section Membership levels dropped dramatically after the first year we were officially formed in 2004. At that point we just barely broke the threshold of a minimum of 300 members in order to be allowed to form a section (we had 306 members in 2004). Since then we have hovered around 200 members (we had 207 members in 2005; 192 members in 2006; 201 members in 2007, and 189 members in 2008). The most recent data we have available shows that the Section's membership has gone up to 211.

Membership levels are important for the section for two reasons. First, the number of sessions at the annual meetings that sections are allocated by the ASA is directly related to the number of members in each section. We are now being allocated the minimum number of sessions possible. Second, the amount of money each section is allocated by the ASA is also directly related to the number of members. Our level of funding affects our ability to pay for the awards that are given, to provide travel funds to the graduate student paper competition winner, and to host our reception at the ASA meetings.

While the ASA is primarily an organization joined by scholars in the United States, it has a long tradition of attracting membership from scholars in a wide range of countries around the world. The EMCA Section is proud to be increasingly international in membership and participation, as is appropriate given the ... see "INTERNATIONAL" *c o n t i n u e d o n p a g e 8*

Submissions for the next issue (Spring/Mar-Apr) should be sent

**By: March 24, 2010**

To: Ingrid Li (managing editor)

[ingridli@umail.ucsb.edu](mailto:ingridli@umail.ucsb.edu)

## NOMINATIONS FOR SECTION OFFICERS (2010-2012)

We are seeking nominations for two new co-chairs of the section, a new secretary/treasurer, and two council members.

Jack Whalen has volunteered to head the nomination committee for this election. Please consider volunteering yourself, or suggest someone to Jack that you think would make a good candidate. The ASA election rules require that we have at least two candidates for each position. Please send names of nominees and their contact information to Jack Whalen at [jackwhalen@me.com](mailto:jackwhalen@me.com)

*Nominations must be received before the end of December -- names must be submitted to the ASA no later than*  
**December 31, 2010**

## CALL FOR EMCA SECTION: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are several ways that section members can help the section—let us know if you'd like to volunteer. The following committees still need volunteers:

- ❖ If you would like to volunteer for the Distinguished Publication Award committee, please contact committee chair Esther González Martínez: [esther.gonzalezmartinez@unifr.ch](mailto:esther.gonzalezmartinez@unifr.ch)

## ASA 106th ANNUAL MEETING 2011 ANNOUNCED

**August 13 - 16, 2011: Chicago, Illinois  
Hilton Chicago and Palmer House Hilton**

**Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas**

Session Proposals are invited for the 106th Annual Meeting

- \* *Proposals for Thematic Sessions are no longer being accepted (and were due by November 13, 2009).*
- \*\* **Proposals for all other types of sessions are due by February 5, 2010.**

## Melvin Pollner Prize in Ethnomethodology

We are pleased to announce the inauguration of the *Melvin Pollner Prize in Ethnomethodology*. The Pollner Prize will be awarded every other year beginning in 2010 to the author of an article, chapter, or book that develops original work drawing upon or resonant with Mel'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. The Prize will be administered by an awards committee of the Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section, which will issue a call for nominations in the near future.

Mel was an important figure in ethnomethodology, producing work that had broad significance for sociological theory and research. His work analyzed how people create and sustain a sense of living in an objective, intersubjectively shared world -- in short, how people "do" ordinary reality. In a series of influential articles and in his book, *Mundane Reason (1987)*, Mel examined the ways in which this "objective" reality is produced and sustained in ordinary interaction. Through the Pollner Prize we seek to encourage current and future generations of scholars to consider and engage these and other issues that Mel saw as central contributions from and to ethnomethodology.

While devoted to ethnomethodology, Mel was committed to and involved in sociology and the sociological perspective. Originally trained as a survey researcher, he continued to work with survey data throughout his career and published a number of articles using quantitative data and techniques. He regularly taught broadly inclusive courses on the sociology of mental illness, and edited and published work in this area addressing a variety of fundamental sociological issues and processes. Mel also had a life-long interest in the historical shaping of human consciousness, drawing inspiration from works ranging from Julian Jaynes' analysis of the breakdown of the bicameral mind to Norbert Elias' studies of manners and the civilizing process. We see the Pollner Prize as providing a tribute not only to Mel's ethnomethodological concerns, but also to his passion for the broader sociological enterprise.

Although initial funds have been donated to establish the Pollner Prize, we need additional contributions if we are to realize our goal of awarding a \$1000 prize every second year. So we are asking you to contribute what you can to fully fund this tribute to Mel's work and memory. You can do so by sending a check, made out to American Sociological Association, to:

American Sociological Association  
Attn: Les Briggs, Director of Finance  
1430 K Street NW, Ste. 600  
Washington, DC 20005

Please note on your check that your contribution is for the "Pollner Prize."  
(Contributions are tax deductible.)

Sincerely,  
Judy Pollner  
Bob Emerson

*See the Call for Nominations for this award on page 4 ...*



**Dr. Leslie Hope Jarmon**, Faculty Development Specialist at the University of Texas, lost a long and brave battle with cancer on November 24. Dr. Jarmon received her Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Texas in 1993. She was the first scholar in the world to submit her dissertation on CD-ROM. Jarmon held a wide variety of teaching positions in the American School in Athens, the Peace Corps in Costa Rica and Ecuador, and the Indiana University. Since 1995 she was an instructor at the University of Texas at Austin and served in several administrative positions. In that capacity she trained faculty to be better teachers, she helped challenge future graduate students to manage their educational goals through the Intellectual Entrepreneurship program, she assisted international students, and at the end of her life was assisting UT System administrators in organizing meetings through Second Life. Those are the professional facts. Anyone who came to know Dr. Jarmon knew her as a charming, vibrant, and joyful person of many parts. She practiced transcendental meditation, was an advocate for world peace, an expert musician, a trained theatre actor and author. Her colleagues, students, and friends are richer for having known her, and we mourn her loss. A celebration of her life was held at Mercury Hall (Austin, Texas) on December 2, 2009.

If interested, donations may be made to

Leslie Jarmon Education Trust  
3005 S. Lamar D-109 PMB 148  
Austin, TX 78704

Samten Tse Charitable Society  
Lotus Garden  
1991 Pine Grove Rd.  
Stanley, VA 22851

— by Barry Brummett,  
University of Texas

# EMCA SECTION - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Deadline for ALL EMCA Section Award(s) Nominations is **March 1, 2010!**



## *Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis* **Lifetime Achievement Award**

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)

Send nominations to:

Jack Whalen  
jackwhalen@me.com

## *Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis* **Distinguished Publication Award**



Send nominations to:

Esther González Martínez,  
University of Fribourg,  
Department of Social Sciences,  
1700 Fribourg,  
Switzerland,

esther.gonzalezmartinez@unifr.ch

This award recognizes an outstanding publication contributing to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. The 2010 award will be given to a **journal article**. Eligible articles for the 2010 award must be published between 2007 and 2009, inclusively. Authors can submit their own publications, or nominations can be made on their behalf. To submit a nomination, please email full bibliographic information on the publication.

*Volunteers are still needed for this committee. If you would like to volunteer, please contact committee chair, Esther González Martínez.*



## **ANNOUNCING:** *Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis* **Melvin Pollner Prize in Ethnomethodology**

This award honors the intellectual spirit and memory of Melvin Pollner and will be given to an outstanding book, article, or chapter that addresses issues relating to ethnomethodology in the inclusive sense reflected in Pollner's intellectual and research concerns. Publications from 2005-2009 are eligible for the award. Nominations should be submitted no later than March 1, 2010 and should include

- 1) Full bibliographical information on the nominated publication;
- 2) A link to a web site where articles and/or chapters can be downloaded, a PDF copy of the manuscript, or a hard copy of the manuscript (copies of books need not be submitted with the initial nomination); and
- 3) A brief description of the publication's special contribution and how it reflects the spirit of the award

Send nominations to:

Jim Holstein  
Dept. Social & Cultural Sciences  
Marquette University  
P.O. Pox 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53211-1881

E-mail:  
James.Holstein@Marquette.edu.



## *Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis* **Graduate Student Paper Award**

Send [nomination] papers to:

Virginia Teas Gill  
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology  
Illinois State University  
Campus Box 4660  
Normal, Illinois 61790

Or, email (*preferred*) to  
vtgill@ilstu.edu

This award recognizes an outstanding paper written by a graduate student. Submitted papers should address ethnomethodological and/or conversation analytic topics and literature and should read well as stand-alone papers. Maximum length is 10,000 words. Published papers or those that have been accepted for publication are not eligible. Co-authored papers are acceptable as long as all authors are students. All identifying references to the author(s) should be removed from submissions. A total of \$300 is available to offset convention travel expenses for winning student(s).

# EMCA SECTION - CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Deadline for submissions to the ASA's online paper submission system is **January 13, 2010!**

## EMCA session on Conversation Analysis

Invited Paper Session

Tanya Stivers, *Max Planck Institute* (Organizer)

Special Focus: "Trouble in Conversation"

Tanya is a scientific staff member of the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. She has written extensively on social interaction both in everyday conversational contexts and in primary care medical contexts. Much of her work has focused on asymmetries in domains of knowledge and decision making in interaction. Recent publications in conversation analysis include *Prescribing Under Pressure: Parent-physician conversations and antibiotics* (Oxford University Press, 2007) and *The Morality of Knowledge in Conversation* (with L. Mondada & J. Steensig, Cambridge University Press--forthcoming).

## EMCA session on Ethnomethodology

Open Submission

Michael Lynch, *Cornell University* (Organizer)

Michael is a Professor in the Department of Science & Technology Studies at Cornell University. His research is on shop talk, visual representation, and practical action in research laboratories, clinical settings, and legal tribunals. His book *Scientific Practice and Ordinary Action: Ethnomethodology and Social Studies of Science* won the 1995 Robert K. Merton Professional Award from the Science, Knowledge and Technology Section of the ASA. His most recent book, *Truth Machine: The Contentious History of DNA Fingerprinting* (with Simon Cole, Ruth McNally & Kathleen Jordan; University of Chicago Press, 2008) examines the interplay between law and science in criminal cases involving DNA evidence.



**105th Annual Meeting**

**August 14 - 17, 2010**

**Hilton Atlanta ~and~**

**Atlanta Marriott Marquis**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

The Program Committee of the ASA is sponsoring two sessions relevant to our section members.

## ASA-invited session on Ethnomethodology

Karen Rosenblum, *George Mason University*

An Associate Professor in sociology who served as the university's first vice president for students, she directs Mason's Ethnography of Diversity project, which is an interdisciplinary, multi-year effort promoting graduate and undergraduate student research on the nature and impact of diversity in higher education. Her work considers the practices through which race, ethnic, gender, sexual, and disability identities are claimed, challenged, and negotiated. Her recent publications include "Perfectly American: Constructing the Refugee Experience" (with David Haines), in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* (2009) and "Ambivalence: Exploring the American University Experience of the Children of Immigrants" (with Ying Zhou and Karen Gentemann), in *Race, Ethnicity, and Education* (2009).

## ASA-invited session on Conversation Analysis

Sandra T. Thompson, *Florida Memorial University*

Sandra is a sociologist who is currently serving as President of Florida Memorial University. In previous years she has served as Provost, and as chair of their Division of Social Sciences.

We appreciate her willingness to take time out of her busy administrative schedule to organize this session.

*We would like to thank all four of you in advance for taking on the work of organizing these sessions in ethnomethodology and conversation analysis; your contributions are greatly appreciated.*



# What's Coming Up



## CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIUMS

[ including Call(s) for Papers -&- Deadlines ]

### ... CALENDAR AT A GLANCE ...

\* \* \*

3rd Annual CA DAY  
"Conversation Analysis  
and Everyday Lives"  
Loughborough University  
**December 16, 2009**

\* \* \*

SYMPOSIUM: Communication in  
Healthcare Settings: Policy,  
Participation, and New Technologies  
London, UK  
**December 17, 2009**

\* \* \*

**DEADLINE: December 31, 2009**  
**Last Day to Renew ASA (EMCA)**  
**Membership**

**And, Last Day to nominate EMCA**  
**Committee Members**

\* \* \*

**Deadline: January 13, 2010**  
**ASA 2010/Atlanta Submission**

\* \* \*

**Deadline: January 15, 2010**  
UCLA - Center for Language, Interaction  
and Culture (CLIC-GSA) Submission

\* \* \*

**Deadline: January 15, 2010**  
18th International Conference on  
Pragmatics and Language Learning  
(PLL18) Submission

\* \* \*

**Deadline: February 5, 2010**  
**ASA 2011/Chicago Proposals for**  
**[all other types of] Sessions**

\* \* \*

**Deadline: February 17, 2010**  
National Communications Association,  
Language & Social Interaction (NCA-LSI)  
Division Annual Meeting Submission

### Conversation Analysis and Everyday Lives Loughborough University December 16, 2009

The Discourse and Rhetoric Group's third annual CA Day at Loughborough will be devoted to what sense Conversation Analysis can make of our everyday lives - in families, at work, with friends, in service encounters

£10 Registration, £5 for students - to register:  
<http://www-staff.lboro.ac.uk/~ssca1/CAday2009/regform.doc>

Programme:  
<http://www-staff.lboro.ac.uk/~ssca1/CAday2009/CA2009programme.pdf>

*Afternoon symposium celebrating the publication of a new volume:*

### 'Communication in Healthcare Settings: Policy, Participation, and New Technologies' \* London, UK December 17, 2009

Now more than ever, successful healthcare practice is contingent upon effective interaction between practitioners and clients, and among members of healthcare teams. This symposium will highlight how conversation analysis is being applied to a range of healthcare activities in a variety of healthcare settings around the world, covering topics as wide-ranging as requesting tissue donations, managing the moral nature of obesity consultations, and carrying out surgical training. Presenters will examine how issues relating to policy, procedure, and technology are negotiated and managed throughout daily healthcare practice. The symposium will highlight the contribution of the new volume to the fields of medical sociology and conversation analysis.

Symposium Fee £15

\*\*Reservations required\*\* Please contact Jon Hindmarsh  
([jon.hindmarsh@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:jon.hindmarsh@kcl.ac.uk)) to reserve your place at the event.

\* '*Communication in Healthcare Settings: Policy, Participation and New Technologies*', edited by Alison Pilnick, Jon Hindmarsh, and Virginia Teas Gill. Wiley-Blackwell.

Our special thanks to **Paul ten Have**  
(<http://www2.fmg.uva.nl/emca/EMCA.htm>)  
for providing some of this information

... Calendar continued on page 7 ...



# What's Coming Up



## CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIUMS

[ including Call(s) for Papers -&- Deadlines ]

... continued from page 6 ...

### ... CALENDAR AT A GLANCE ...

\* \* \*

**Deadline: March 1, 2010**  
**EMCA Section Awards Nomination**

\* \* \*

**Deadline: March 5, 2010**  
Register for Introduction to CA,  
University of York, UK

\* \* \*

**Announcement: April 30, 2010**  
**ASA 2010 Annual Meeting Program**

\* \* \*

International Communication  
Association Conference (ICA)  
*Singapore*

**June 22-26, 2010**

\* \* \*

International Conference on  
Conversation Analysis (ICCA-10)  
*Manheim University, Germany*  
**July 4-8, 2010**

\* \* \*

XVII World Congress of Sociology (ISA)  
*Gothenburg, Sweden*  
**July 11-17, 2010**

\* \* \*

18th International Conference on  
Pragmatics and Language Learning  
(PLL18)  
*Kobe University, Kobe (Japan)*  
**July 16-19 2010**

\* \* \*

National Communications Association,  
Language & Social Interaction Division  
*San Francisco, California*  
**November 14-17, 2010**

### An Introduction to the Methods of Conversation Analysis 28-30 April 2010

Paul Drew and Merran Toerien  
*Department of Sociology, University of York, UK*

The course will be limited to no more than 15 participants who will work intensively with the two tutors to develop basic skills in transcription and in understanding the conversation analytic approach to talk as action. We will introduce participants to key analytic tools and methodological techniques in analysing data, including making collections of phenomena and analysing interactional patterns and practices, on the basis of those collections. The course will be organised through talks and practical activities and exercises, with an emphasis on hands-on work with data; an indicative reading list and course reader will also be provided.

The deadline for registration is **the 5 March 2010**; but bearing in mind the limited availability, early enquiries are welcome; places will be reserved in the order enquiries are received.

For further details about registering for the course, please contact  
Sarah Shrive-Morrison  
Department of Sociology, University of York  
Heslington, York YO10 5DD

Email: [ssm500@york.ac.uk](mailto:ssm500@york.ac.uk) or  
telephone +44 (0) 1904 433064

### CLIC GSA CONFERENCE 2010 THE 16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE, INTERACTION, AND CULTURE *University of California, Los Angeles* **May 6-8, 2010**

The conference addresses topics at the intersection of language, interaction, and culture from theoretical perspectives that employ data from recorded naturalistic interaction. This includes, but is not limited to conversation analysis, discourse analysis, ethnography of communication, ethnomethodology, interactional sociolinguistics, language ideologies, and language socialization. We welcome abstracts from graduate students and faculty working in all areas including Anthropology, Applied Linguistics, Education, Linguistics, Psychology, and Sociology. Abstracts are due no later than **January 15, 2010**, by electronic submission only.

For more information, and/or link to the online submission, please visit:  
<http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/al/clic/>

Our special thanks to **Paul ten Have** (<http://www2.fmg.uva.nl/emca/EMCA.htm>)  
for providing some of this information

world-wide locations of researchers working in the areas of Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis. Several of our current and recent Council Members are from institutions abroad (e.g., the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and the Netherlands), and several of our award winners this year are overseas (Australia, the Netherlands). Current EMCA Section membership has a substantial international contingent, with members from at least 13 countries around the world, including Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, South Korea, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (according to the most recent membership list we have received from ASA).

An internationally coordinated membership drive has recently been initiated, and will be continued through the coming year in order to achieve our goal of adding at least 100 new members between now and the time of the annual meeting in Atlanta. Several current members have volunteered to coordinate our East Coast, West Coast, and Midwest membership drives in the U.S.. George Psathas (Professor Emeritus, Boston University) has volunteered to serve as Regional Membership Coordinator for the east coast, Steven Clayman (Professor, UCLA) for the west coast, and Douglas Maynard for the Midwest. For the international component of our membership drive, Robert Dingwall (Professor, University of Nottingham, U.K.) has volunteered to coordinate the recruitment effort for the United Kingdom, Esther González Martínez (University of Freiburg, Switzerland) has volunteered to coordinate the recruitment effort for Europe, and Nozomi Ikeya has volunteered to coordinate the recruitment effort for Japan and neighboring countries. Each of these individuals will help to facilitate the section's efforts to spread the word about the dynamic role the EMCA Section is playing in EMCA research and to actively encourage more scholars and graduate students to join ASA and the EMCA Section.

ASA membership runs on a calendar year, so please do remember to renew your membership in ASA and in the EMCA Section by the end of December. If you do not renew in time, ASA will immediately remove your name from our section mailing list, and you will not receive further copies of the newsletter. So please visit the ASA website and renew your membership now: <http://www.asanet.org/>. Note that ASA memberships are prorated by income, with membership fees ranging from \$25 to \$185 per year. Students pay only \$19 per year, and International Associate Memberships are available for \$44 per year. The cost of joining the EMCA Section is an additional \$10 per year.

If you have colleagues or graduate students who are working in the areas of ethnomethodology and conversation analysis, please forward this newsletter to them and urge them to consider joining the section.

## 2010 Section Membership Form

For ASA membership information and to join -or- renew online:  
[http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/join\\_or\\_renew/join](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/join_or_renew/join)

### 2010 ASA Membership Dues:

- Regular: \$25 - \$185  
(sliding scale, based on income)
- Associate: \$44
- Student: \$19
- Emeritus: \$44
- International: \$44

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

Mail to:

**Membership Services**  
**American Sociological Association**  
**1430 K Street, NW - Suite 600**  
**Washington DC 20005**

I am an ASA member and want to join the Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section. Enclosed is a check for \$10.00 for 2010 section dues (\$5.00 for students). Make checks payable to **American Sociological Association** (Please put "EMCA Section Dues" on the memo line of your check).