

EMCA NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the American Sociological Association's section on
Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis

Message From the Chairs

Jay Meehan and Tanya Stivers

If last year things still felt new and weird at the virtual ASA, we were seasoned pros this year. Chicago would have been nice -- good music, the Art Institute, pizza, Cubbies or White Sox? -- but we still enjoyed seeing everyone. We had a total of 6 panels, and our attendance was upwards of 30 people in some sessions. Our wonderful international colleagues joined us in the wee hours, and we were so glad to have everyone's participation! We had representation from at least 10 countries over the course of the three days.

Our membership drive has been helping. We now have 137 members: a gain of 24 new members since 2020! We still have a ways to go to clear 200, but if each of our faculty section members sponsored one new section membership for a student or colleague, we'd get there! And this would certainly help ASA to recognize our small but mighty status! So please think of EMCA when you ponder your random acts of kindness for 2022.

Looking ahead, we are excited to be announcing our call for nominations for the 2022 Section awards in this newsletter, so please consider nominating yourself, a student, or a colleague for one of the Section awards. You can find a list of past award winners on the ASA website: EMCA awards. We thank the committee chairs and members who have volunteered their time this year to staff these important committees.

We are also planning more webinars this year for Section members--so stay tuned! Last year we hosted three well-attended webinars whose topics were driven by member ideas. So, if you have an idea for a webinar and/or would be willing to host one, please let us know.

It's also time to think about submitting a paper to the 2022 ASA meeting which will be in Los Angeles, August 5-9. The ASA paper submission portal opens November 8, 2021 and closes February 9, 2022. Remember that you can submit to either the Section Sessions or the Regular Sessions. We strongly urge you to list the Section or Regular session alternatives as your second and third choices so that we can program as many papers as possible! Last year, we were awarded extra sessions because of the large number of submissions and hope to do so again this year. Contact us or Giovanni Rossi (in charge of the Regular Sessions) if you need help.

Finally, as always, we look forward to ideas that you as members might have to provide important services to our community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with your thoughts.

We look forward to hearing from you.



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Call for 2022 EMCA Section Awards

The EMCA section is requesting nominations for the following awards to be given at the 2022 ASA Annual meeting in Los Angeles.

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 Satomi Kurashima (Committee Chair, blackisland1976@gmail.com) by **March 1, 2022**.

EMCA Distinguished Paper Award

This award recognizes an outstanding publication contributing to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. The 2021 award will be given to a published article. Eligible papers for the 2022 award must be published between September 1, 2019 and February 28, 2022, 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 article; and 2) a PDF copy (preferable) or a hard copy of the article; or a link to a website where the article can be downloaded in full at no charge.

Please send nominations to Esther Gonzalez-Martinez (Committee Chair) (esther.gonzalezmartinez@unifr.ch) by **March 1, 2022**.

EMCA Graduate Student Paper Award

This award recognizes an outstanding graduate student paper (either published or unpublished) that contributes to ethnomethodology and/or conversation analysis. Eligible papers for the 2022 award must have been published or written between September 1, 2019 and February 28, 2022, inclusively. Authors can submit their own publications/papers, or nominations can be made on their behalf. Committee members may also make their own nominations. Please note: only graduate students who are current EMCA section members are eligible for this award. Section membership must be valid by the March 1st submission deadline.

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

Please send nominations to Giovanni Rossi, (Committee Chair) (rossi@soc.ucla.edu) by **March 1, 2022**.

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The Melvin Pollner Prize in Ethnomethodology

The Melvin Pollner Prize in Ethnomethodology honors the intellectual spirit and memory of Melvin Pollner. The \$1000 award recognizes an article, chapter, or book published between September 1, 2019-February 28, 2022, 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.

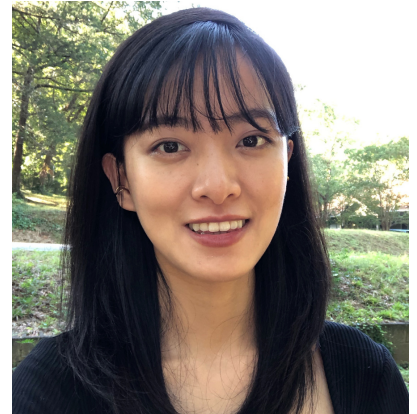
Nominations must include 1) full bibliographic information on the nominated article, chapter or book; and 2) a PDF copy (preferable) or a hard copy of the article, chapter or book; or a link to a website where the article, chapter or book can be downloaded in full at no charge. Committee members may also make their own nominations.

Please send nominations to Michael Lynch (Committee Chair) (mel27@cornell.edu) by **March 1, 2022**.

For a list of all previous section award winners, see: <https://www.asanet.org/asa-communities/asa-sections/current-sections/ethnomethodology-and-conversation-analysis/ethnomethodology-and-conversation-analysis-award-recipient-history>

Student Spotlight: Tianhao Zhang (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

I am a fifth-year doctoral student and a first-year rookie in EMCA research. My first exposure to EMCA was during my last summer in college. I took a class called "Sociology of Deviant Behavior," and the instructor was the magnificent Michael DeLand. In that class, I first learned the names of Garfinkel, Sacks, Pollner, and Sudnow. I probably did not understand what the readings were all about and what the word ethnomethodology really meant. Nonetheless, I was hooked, and I thought it was a really cool version of sociology.



I graduated from college and moved to Japan. Remembering EMCA as the most fun I had with sociology, I got connected to a group of fellow graduate students after reaching out to Dr. Hideo Hama. They call themselves "Hongou Conceptual Analysis Research Group" (or something like that), and they are amazing. They were doing research applying EMCA, while all I knew about EMCA was what was on DeLand's syllabus. They are the ones who really taught me what contemporary EMCA research could look like.

I was discouraged. I thought it was too late to start doing EMCA. So I continued doing conventional qualitative sociology, and then I started doing EMCA with help from many people (especially Dr. Kevin Whitehead)! In my forthcoming paper in *Discourse & Society*, I show how Chinese students in Japan use category-based knowledge to display commonsense comprehension with perpetrators of discrimination. In a paper currently under review, my coauthor (Ryo Okazawa) and I examine researchers' practices of managing neutrality, rapport, and antiracism in qualitative interviews. I am also working on a paper that looks at participants' practices when disputing reported incidents of racism. I am excited to learn and do more research in EMCA.

Faculty Spotlights: Meet our three new board members!

Alex Dennis (EMCA Section Secretary/Treasurer)



I'm a Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Sheffield in the UK. I did my PhD on decision-making in elderly rehabilitation at the University of Manchester, supervised by Wes Sharrock. I'm the executive editor of *Ethnographic Studies* [<http://ethnographicstudies.org/>], and the co-author of *Sociologies of Interaction* (Polity 2013) and *Perspectives in Sociology* (6th ed., Routledge 2015). I'm currently part of the editorial team for the forthcoming Routledge International Handbook of Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis, and am finishing off a monograph on magic, science and rationality for publication in 2022.

Christian Greiffenhagen (EMCA Section Council Member)

I'm an Associate Professor in the Dept of Sociology at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), and previously worked at Loughborough University and the University of Manchester. I actually have a background in mathematics and computer science and was first introduced to EMCA during my graduate studies at the Oxford University Computing Laboratory, where I worked as part of the Oxford-Intel Education Initiative and ended up being (externally) supervised by Rod Watson (Manchester). My doctoral project applied the 'workplace studies' approach to school classrooms and investigated how a digital storyboarding tool was made 'at home' with existing classroom practices. I then worked as a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Manchester with Wes Sharrock and used my background to develop a sociology of mathematics. Since moving to Hong Kong in 2015, I have promoted EMCA in Hong Kong and Asia. At CUHK, I founded the Video Analysis, Science & Technology (VAST) Research Group, where doctoral students have conducted a variety of empirical studies of how new technologies transform social practices. I also established the Hong Kong-Macao Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Group (HKGMACEMCA), which holds regular data sessions and brought many international scholars to Hong Kong. Currently I am finishing a project "The Practice of Peer Review in Mathematics", which was my first-ever project based on qualitative interviews (with editors of math journals).



Derek Coates (EMCA Section Council Member)



I am the campus Manager of Disability Program Access and lead on the campuswide program access Self-Assessment. I received my Ph. D in Sociology from Wayne State University and was hired as an Ed Roberts Postdoctoral Fellow in Disability Studies at U.C. Berkeley as part of a National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research grant. I began my career at Berkeley as the campus Disability Resolution Officer, resolving and investigating allegations of discrimination on the basis of disability. In 2006, I was awarded the Chancellor's Outstanding Staff Award as a member of the "WebAccess" team that [continued...]

collaboratively conducted outreach to web builders and designers campuswide. Two years later I was awarded a U.C. Berkeley Institute for Leadership and Development (BILD) grant to create the Disabled Staff Resource Network, a pre-cursor to the current Alliance for Disability Access (ADA) staff organization for allies of and employees with disabilities. I was then hired as the Discrimination Complaint Resolution Coordinator for the Central Human Resources unit, and then appointed to be the campus Interim Disability Compliance Officer. In 2017, I was nominated to the Chancellor's Outstanding Staff Achievement Award committee for a SPOT award in special recognition of leadership in producing a disability awareness screening on Asian suicide and mental health. I also received a second Staff Appreciation and Recognition SPOT award for service to the Graduate Division and the Parking and Transportation unit. In 2018 I received the Chancellor's Outstanding Achievement Award.

ASA Gift Membership

Gift Memberships: Deadline Is July 31, 2022

You can gift an ASA membership to students, or a Section membership to existing ASA members of any membership type. However, the sooner you give a gift membership, the sooner the recipient can begin to enjoy the benefits of membership and learn more about the Section.

Purchase a gift ASA membership for students: Once you have accessed the member portal, click "Purchase a gift membership for a student" under **Contribute/Give**. Search for the student by name. You can also create a new contact record if you can't find the student in the database. Your gift will be redeemable by the recipient for an ASA student membership. The recipient will receive an email with the gift credit immediately after your purchase. Recipients will need to complete a membership form through the ASA member portal in order to redeem their gift membership. Gift memberships are not refundable. Gift memberships are not tax deductible.

Purchase a gift Section membership. Once you have accessed the member portal, click "Purchase a gift section membership" under **Contribute/Give**. Select the Section and search for your recipient by first and last name. Section membership requires a current ASA membership. Only ASA members who do not already have a membership in that Section are eligible to receive the gift. Immediately after you make your payment, the recipient will receive an email that includes your name along with the notification of the Section gift. Recipients do not need to take any action to redeem gift Section membership. Gifts are not tax deductible.

Recap of our Summer Webinar

Thank you to all those who attended our previous webinar,
"An Interview with Waverly Duck."



In late July, we had the pleasure to host a public conversation with Waverly Duck, an urban sociologist and Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh. He is the author of "No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing" (University of Chicago Press, 2015), which was a finalist for the Society for the Study of Social Problems 2016 C. Wright Mills Book Award. He also co-authored "Tacit Racism" with Anne Rawls, which came out in 2020 with the University of Chicago Press. Professor Duck's research involves several projects focusing on gentrification, displacement, and food apartheid. Like his earlier work, his current research investigates the challenges faced by marginalized groups. However, it is more directly concerned with how residents of marginalized communities identify problems and what they think are viable solutions.

To spark the conversation, section members sent questions in advance to Luis Manuel and Kristella, which they organized into four themes that mapped out Professor Duck's trajectory into becoming a Professor: applying and navigating grad school, doing research, communicating research, and teaching and mentoring students. This is the first time we used an interview format for our web event series, which we've been running since fall 2020. What did you think about this new format? What other questions could have been asked? Who would you like to see next in conversation with section members? Kindly send all comments and suggestions for future events you might have to Luis Manuel and Kristella at emca.asa@gmail.com

The video of our conversation with Professor Duck will soon become available again. We are currently looking for ways to create an online multimedia repository to archive, make available, and disseminate the videos of our web event series. Be sure to be on the lookout for an email from us on this effort in the upcoming weeks!