

UKLEF Report of Meetings Coordinator to AGM (Sept 2007 – Sept 2008) September 2008

A key development in the Linguistic Ethnography Forum (LEF) events held this year is our collaboration with other SIGS and research centres/initiatives. There were three collaborative events organised as one day seminars. These were with the BAAL Multimodality SIG ; the Literacy Research Centre, Lancaster University and the ESRC-RDI 'Ethnography Language & Communication' Research Training Programme and the Open University.

The ESRC-RDI programme on 'Ethnography Language & Communication' continues to provide a rich programme of events involving colleagues from the LEF membership and dovetailing with LEF's aims to bring together researchers to explore key theoretical and methodological issues.

Further information on these collaborations along with other LEF meetings is provided below:

1. *Negotiating Multilingual Identities in Educational Settings* (BAAL Annual Meeting, University of Edinburgh, 6th September 2007. Organiser, Adrian Blackledge). This colloquium presented four ethnographic studies, each of which investigated identity negotiation of multilingual learners in educational settings. 'Erosion of language-ideological based pupils' identities in a Dutch multicultural primary classroom' (Massimiliano Spotti & Sjaak Kroon); 'Multilingual identities in higher education: Negotiating the 'mother tongue', 'posh' and 'slang'' (Siân Preece); 'Multilingual children negotiating complex identities in ideological worlds' (Adrian Blackledge, Shahela Hamid, Li Wei, and Chao-Jung Wu); "I can come to the meetings but can I join the club?" Experiences of bilingual students in vocational classrooms in an English FE college' (Barbara Majer)
2. *Linguistic ethnography and Socio-Cultural Psychology in conversation: A workshop on educational dialogue and classroom interaction*, jointly sponsored by the ESRC-RDI 'Ethnography Language & Communication' Research Training Programme and the Open University. Open University, 16 February 2008. Organisers: Adam Lefstein, Janet Maybin and Ben Rampton). This workshop sought to foster the dialogue between LE and SCP. There were c. 40 participants, and presentations, discussions and responses were led by Neil Mercer (Cambridge), Christine Howe (Cambridge), Adam Lefstein (IoE), Ben Rampton (King's College London), Janet Maybin (OU), and Kris Gutiérrez (UCLA).
3. *Multimodality and ethnography: Working at the intersection* (jointly sponsored by the BAAL Multimodality and Linguistic Ethnography SIGs. Open University, 26th February 2008. Organised by Kate Pahl, Rosie Flewitt and Lesley

Lancaster. The questions addressed at this seminar included: (1) How can research methodologies be enhanced by combining multimodal and ethnographic approaches?; (2) How does a focus on the affordances of different modalities usefully extend and enhance the 'thick description' demanded by fine-grained ethnography? (3) How does incorporating visual/material cultural methodologies enhance ethnographic research? There were presentations and discussions led by Kate Pahl (Sheffield), Lesley Lancaster (Manchester Metropolitan), Sarah Pink (Loughborough), Alison Clark (Roehampton), Rachel Hurdley (Cardiff), and Rosie Flewitt (OU), Jennifer Rowsell (Rutgers).

4. *Ethnographies of literacy/ Ethnographies de l'écrit : An Anglo-French Dialogue*. Organised by the Literacy Research Centre, Lancaster University, and co-sponsored by UK LEF. Lancaster. 8 May 2008). This seminar brought together members of the Lancaster LLRC, UK LEF and the *Anthropologie de l'Écriture* group based at the *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales* in Paris. There were 23 participants, with presentations from Béatrice Fraenkel, Uta Papen, Karin Tusting, Nathalie Joly, David Barton, Aissatou Mbodj-Pouye, Julia Gillen, Nigel Hall and Philippe Artières. There is a fuller report of the event in BAAL News # 89, Summer 2008.

5. *Upcoming and future meetings:*

5.1 There will be a track of Linguistic Ethnography papers at the 2008 BAAL Annual Meeting in Swansea on 13 Sept 2008, with contributions from Angeles Clemente, Michael Higgins, Meredith Izon, Mukul Saxena, Peter Sercombe and James Simpson.

5.2 There is also a conference on 'Advances in Ethnography, Language and Communication' at Aston University on 20 September 2008, organized by 'graduates' from the first 5 day course on 'Key Concepts and Methods' (the keynote speakers are Celia Roberts and Janet Maybin).

5.3 During 2008-09, the ESRC-RDI programme 'Ethnography Language and Communication' is planning to run up to six events with details posted at www.rdi-elc.org.uk. This schedule involves: three one-day workshops, on 'Asylum and Migration' (Sat 15 Nov 2008 in London), on 'Health' (Jan/Feb 2009) and on 'New Media' (autumn 2009); a one-day seminar on 'Teaching and Learning Linguistic Ethnography' (spring 2009); and two one-day event Master Classes (with speakers to be confirmed).

Angela Creese, Meetings Secretary 2008.