



**LACUS
FORUM
XXXVII**

**Communication and Cognition:
Multidisciplinary Perspectives**

McMaster
University 

Reprint

LACUS Forum 37 Referees

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LACUS FORUM XXXVII

**COMMUNICATION AND COGNITION:
MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES**

EDITED BY

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PREFACE

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LINGUISTICS SOCIETY OF CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES WAS HELD JULY 20 TO JULY 24, 2010 at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. The conference theme was “Communication and Cognition” referencing the rich cognitivist tradition of many streams of inquiry within the LACUS universe, as well as the broad “language in context,” taken by many, who situate language as a theoretical and empirical object within the greater flow of human communication. Contributions were welcomed that examined any vein of this rich theme. Of course, in keeping with longstanding LACUS tradition, papers were welcome from any area of language study, both theoretical and empirical. Contributions came from a very broad spectrum of disciplinary backgrounds, encouraging healthy debate and the friendly presentation of often radically differing perspectives on how language is structured and organized in the mind and in social life.

McMaster University’s campus was in the height and hot days of a glorious summer and accommodations were plentiful and convenient for meeting the diverse needs of the LACUS crew. Mike Kliffer and Alex Sévigny, two of the editors of this volume, were also the site hosts and event organizers. Conference attendees were able to experience McMaster’s beautiful campus, situated in the heart of the Cootes Paradise conservation area as well as a guided visit to the famous African Lion Safari zoo, which made for a wonderful afternoon. The cheetahs were particularly impressive, approaching the fence and offering remarkable views to the LACUS members watching from the tour bus.

Major presentations were offered by Andrew Laing, president of Cormex Research in Toronto who gave a masterful keynote on the evolving science of content analysis and Sydney Lamb who spoke about the theory outlined in his then recently published book, *Pathways of the Brain*. Both were very well received by the audience which had many thought-provoking comments and questions for the speakers.

This volume continues the tradition of openness and diversity established by LACUS over the forty years of its existence. The volume contains articles on a wide range of topics from across the spectrum of language, communication and cognition. This diversity emphasizes the fact - central to the thinking of many LACUS participants - that language cannot be studied in a vacuum or as a discrete object. Rather, it is a current in a large river of information exchange - a current that interacts with other currents to form the delicate meanings and complex structures that define human communication.

The papers included in this volume have gone through a two-step review process. First, the review of abstracts submitted to the conference; second, the review of submitted manuscripts. Referees for the first step were members of the LACUS Board of Directors and members of the Program Committee. Reviewers for the second step were the members of the Publications Committee. At both stages, continuing the LACUS tradition, reviewers not only recommended acceptance or rejection. Rather, they offered extensive help where needed to authors whose abstracts or manuscripts

could use improvement. Almost all manuscripts were significantly revised after the conference before being submitted for publication, with authors strongly encouraged to take into account the lively and constructive conversations that are the hallmark of LACUS meetings.

The co-editors would like to offer special thanks to Dan Mailman for laying out this volume. As well, sincere thanks is due to all anonymous peer reviewers who took time out of their busy professional lives to perform the task of assuring the quality of the manuscripts that became the articles you are reading here. Thanks to the staff at the African Lion Safari near Hamilton, Ontario for delivering a wonderful experience to our conference delegates. Finally, a big thank you to the conference planning committee as well as the legion of volunteers who helped make the LACUS conference at McMaster University the success that it was.

-Michael D. Kliffer & Alexandre Sévigny, October, 2014