

EDITOR'S NOTE

Readers will observe that this issue has five articles but only three book reviews. This curious ratio is partly the result of my travel schedule, which has required me to submit the issue to the copy editor weeks in advance of when I would normally do so. However, it is also the result of the very slow flow of book reviews into my office. The new five-issue-per-volume format, of course, uses more reviews, and the fault is probably partly mine for not commissioning enough of them. Our founding editor, Dell Hymes, used to write half a dozen book reviews and book notes in each issue; I'm not made of that sort of stuff (although I did contribute a review to this issue, I don't plan to make a habit of it). However, once again, I want to call for book reviewers currently in default to write the reviews that they promised of the excellent volumes that grace their shelves courtesy of this and the past editor! And also, to those who have written offering to do reviews, I thank you and will be in touch with you about your interests. If for some reason I don't reply to your query, please remind me to do so. Readers should watch the "Publications Received" column and request opportunities to review books that look interesting. If the book is not already under review and is appropriate for an *LiS* review, I'll be delighted to send it to you. Finally, please call to my attention books that should be reviewed that don't appear in "Publications Received." I have noticed that publishers sometimes neglect *Language in Society* when sending out review copies of important works in sociolinguistics and related fields. If you write a book, be sure to include *Language in Society* in your list of journals to which you have review copies sent.

Apart from the book review problem, I'm especially pleased with this issue, and I hope that the diverse papers included here, representing authors from the U.S., Canada, Denmark, and Spain, will help to break down any stereotypes about the kinds of work *Language in Society* is interested in (or, to be blunt, the kinds of papers I'm interested in). A very wide range of approaches is illustrated here – rigorous quantification as well as advances in qualitative analysis, large samples of speakers and corpora as well as the dense analysis of a single occasion of talk, political economy as well as poetics, big-name authors and exciting junior scholars – and all, I think, entirely worthy of our attention. So, send your best work. We receive about 100 manuscripts a year (apart from book reviews), but with the five-issue format the acceptance rate is about 20%, fairly good odds for a major international journal. Furthermore, your manuscript will receive efficient attention – time from receipt of manuscript to decision is averaging about 6 months, and time from acceptance to publication is averaging about a year. Note that contributors outside North America are invited to submit manuscripts by electronic mail attachment.

I look forward to seeing your work.