

Preface

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The Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas was co-founded by Janne Bondi Johannessen (University of Oslo, Norway) and Joseph Salmons (University of Wisconsin – Madison, US) as a space for discussion of issues connected to heritage and immigrant languages spoken in the Americas. Since its beginning in 2010, WILA has alternated its host location between Europe and North America and previous workshop locations and other information can be found at <https://www.workshoportunimmigrantlanguages.com/>. The 13th annual meeting offered a return to the workshop's origins in Madison, Wisconsin, with a theme of comparative research. To mark the occasion, the conference hosted the inaugural Janne Bondi Johannessen Celebration Lecture in honor of the conference and research network's late co-founder. Her contributions to the study of heritage languages are highly regarded throughout a global network of scholars and we are pleased that WILA will continue to honor Janne's memory with this lecture series.

This volume of *Bergen Language and Linguistic Studies (BeLLS)* represents a selection of presentations given at the 13th annual meeting of the *Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas*. The contents contain new research on a wide range of heritage language communities located throughout the Americas, from Argentina and Brazil north to the United States, and Canada. The diverse languages explored in these works include heritage varieties of Cantonese, Danish, German, Finnish, Dutch, Italian, Mandarin, Norwegian, and Portuguese. While most of these languages are discussed in their contact relationships with English, Spanish and Portuguese also appear as majority languages.

Half of the works are historical in nature, largely based on written documents like personal letters, memory books, and newspapers—though one chapter makes good use of historical speech recordings. The other half of the chapters are studies of contemporary heritage language communities and their speech exploring topics like linguistic landscapes, stylized speech types, and sociophonetic variation. One such study breaks new ground with a first investigation of its speech community giving glimpses into an assortment of contact-specific linguistic phenomena. We have organized this volume into two sections accordingly.

Using a large collection of personal letters written in the beginning of the 20th century, Carreão investigates forms of address used in the city of Santos, Brazil. Even today, residents of this city are the only ones in the state of São Paulo who favor the use of *tu* over *você* – the more common form in the region. Carreão pursues a historical sociolinguistic analysis to explain the persistence of *tu* in Santos which he attributes, in large part, to local industry and a strong culture of organized labor grounded in equality and solidarity.

Crombez surveys the occurrence of loanwords from English in three Flemish-American newspapers between 1890 and 1959. She observes that overall borrowing rates increased over time in all three newspapers, and differentiates between types of loans in a quantitative analysis that compares the three newspapers examined. These findings are interpreted in terms of time and space as the author draws connections between the data and the cultural background of each publication.

Kühl and Petersen investigate intrasentential code-switching in US American Danish and find variation across generations between immigrant speakers, who prefer non-integrated English words, and heritage speakers, who show a preference for English lexemes to be morphologically integrated into Danish. They connect their results to a previous study of representations of linguistic proficiency in immigrant Danish and show a correlation between integrated code-switching with features representing fluent speech, suggesting that heritage

speakers developed a way of speaking US American Danish where English word stems are lexically varied and an integrated part of fluent speech.

Litty examines memory albums from two multilingual regions: Wisconsin and the Duchy of Schleswig. She examines language usage, kinship, and gender of signatories in two multilingual memory albums in context of a setting of longstanding multilingualism or multilingualism due to (im)migration. She finds that the most important factors in determining communities of language practice are similarities in sex of owners and contributors and the makeup of social circles, in contrast to similarities between sets based on similar multilingual settings.

In a comparative variationist study of Toronto heritage Italian and its homeland counterpart in Calabria, Italy, Cristiano and Nagy find that both homeland and heritage speakers exhibit similar patterns of lenition in their realization of rhotics, challenging any contact-based or simplification interpretation of the pattern in heritage Italian. These results are further framed in a cross-linguistic comparison of rhotics in Toronto heritage Tagalog and Russian.

The Norwegian language in North America has been well-represented in many previous WILA presentations and publications, but in this volume, Kinn, Hjelde, and Lund Stokke introduce a previously unexplored Norwegian heritage language community in Argentina where Spanish is the majority language. The authors give historical background on Norwegian immigration to the area and then describe a selection of contact phenomena (lexical, morphological, and syntactic) observed in data collected from two fieldwork trips to the area.

Lai and Griffin examine language attitudes and perceptions of both Taiwanese Mandarin heritage and homeland listeners towards the use of *sajiao*, a stylized speech type. They find that heritage listeners largely patterned with homeland listeners in their perceptions of *sajiao* in associating *sajiao* with cuteness and friendliness, which distinguishes them from previously studied L2 Mandarin speakers who lacked this judgment. However, they note that heritage listeners do still have salient differences from both homeland listeners and L2 learners in their perceptions of *sajiao* and thus “occupy their own unique space from both L2 listeners and homeland listeners”.

Remlinger and Karinen examine the linguistic landscape of Hancock, Michigan for meanings related to Finnishness linguistically, meta-linguistically, and culturally, and the ways this affects both belonging and place-making. They demonstrate how Finnishness in the landscape ideologically reinforces values of Finnish identity and language while erasing languages and identities of other residents, past and present.

Tse investigates individual differences in heritage Cantonese speakers’ production of the high vowels /y/ and /u/ in Cantonese and UW in English. He finds that the speakers examined show three patterns in their production of the vowels with which pattern they show correlating with which generation the speaker is, their Pillai scores, and their Cantonese Production Score. While some speakers do produce a clear distinction between the three high vowels (/y/, UW, and /u/), Tse found that other speakers cross-linguistically merge a subset of the vowels.

We thank all those who reviewed for and otherwise contributed to this volume and the running of the workshop. We would also like to thank the following units at the University of Wisconsin – Madison: The Anonymous Fund, the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures (CSUMC), the Department of Language Sciences, the Language Institute, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, the Nordic Unit, and the English Department for their generous contributions that made this workshop possible. The collaborative nature of the workshop has helped make this an enriching experience for us as editors and we hope for readers of this volume as well. Continuing to build on the open and synergetic nature of WILA, the 13th iteration saw an expansion of the network of scholars in attendance, which was

continued in Flensburg (WILA 14) and Athens, Georgia (WILA 15), and for many WILAs to come.

To invoke the Wisconsin state motto – Forward!

Rachyl, Mirva, Laura, Joe, and Charlotte