

Special Issue

Coexpressivity, Gesture, and Language Emergence: Modality, Composition, and Creation

Message from the Guest Editors

The notion that human communication, including virtually all signed and spoken languages, routinely involves multiple simultaneous channels or modalities, some vocal and some not, is an ancient idea.

Nonetheless, it has only recently received serious systematic attention from scholars of language and social interaction. Scientific advances in the study of what we will refer to as “coexpressivity,” which often involve research by native and non-native researchers alike on endangered or little studied indigenous and community languages, pay careful attention to what Enfield (2009) called “composite utterances”, in which speech (or sign), gesture, bodily configuration, gaze, and/or touch coalesce to constitute and enable communicative action. Existing literature variously addresses such issues: in addition to Enfield’s (2009) foundational study on Lao or Goodwin’s recent (2017) monograph on cooperative action, there are numerous publications on what Kendon (2004) called “speakers’ gestures”...

Guest Editors

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Languages (ISSN 2226-471X) is now in its eighth year since its inception in 2015. It is an Open Access journal which seeks to stimulate debates on key issues in languages and linguistics. We welcome papers at the cutting edge of different fields, ranging from applied linguistics to descriptive and theoretical linguistics. Submissions may consist of research articles and critical reviews as well as proposals for Special Issues where multi-disciplinary approaches and different perspectives on current issues are explored. We invite you to consider *Languages* as a forum for sharing your work.

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