Editorial

A journal is a journey. A journal is not just cast in concrete once it is launched, but takes its own path over the course of time, nurtured by authors' contributions, reviewers' critical feedback, and readers' interest. Today, we are embarking on such a journey with the publication of issue I of the inaugural volume of *Interactional Linguistics*. It is going to be quite an adventure!

Interactional Linguistics aims to advance research contributing to a science of language in light of its use within the dynamic and multimodal ecology of social interaction. To set the stage for such an endeavour, we are excited to share, in this issue, a set of contributions from some of the key researchers in interactional linguistics that, taken together, highlight the historical, praxeological, processual, and multimodal nature of semiotic resources in interaction. The paper by *Elisabeth Couper-Kuhlen* documents change over time in the interactional use and working of American English 'okay', thereby demonstrating how the tools of interactional linguistics can contribute to our understanding of language change. Investigating bi-clausal anacrustic patterns, *Paul Hopper* offers a critical reflection on the nature of constructions, suggesting that "[p]erhaps it is time for interactional linguists to replace the term *construction* with *process*, a term which is more compatible with the temporality of language and the on-line emergence of structure". In their investigation of the grammatical formats of proposals for joint activities, *Sandra Thompson, Barbara Fox and Chase Wesley Raymond* demonstrate how grammatical choices made by participants shape into being interactional (a)symmetries and relationships. Under the heading 'the Emancipation of Gestures', *Jürgen Streeck* documents how gestures, as communicative resources, emerge from interactional practices in ways that show striking parallels to the emergence and routinization of language. These papers are preceded by an *introductory argument* in which we co-editors programmatically reflect on what a linguistic theory might look like if we move the temporality of grammar, as it occurs in social interaction, to the forefront of our concern with language.

This is what you readers can discover in this first step on the journal's journey.

We thank you all – readers, authors, reviewers – for being companions with us on this journey!

Ilana Mushin & Simona Pekarek Doehler, co-editors