

Editors' note

Another busy (editorial) year has come and gone. We are reporting for the period between August 2023 and July 2024, when we received 70 manuscripts for review from authors around the globe and all the Kachruvian circles: from EFL countries in Europe and China to ESL contexts in Asia and Africa and ENL countries in the southern hemisphere. Of these, the usual 13 full papers made it into the current volume.

The Englishes discussed in the published papers include regional varieties in the UK and the Philippines, variation across the Kachruvian circles (the model continues to serve as a reference frame), as well as Englishes in North America, South Asia and South Africa. Topic-wise, research in this volume looks at urban and rural accents in the UK as well as ethnic accents in Toronto, aspects of lexical and grammatical variation in Britain and South Africa but also sociolinguistic topics like codeswitching and variationist pragmatics. The first issue adds a novel spice to the familiar mix in that it includes a contribution that discusses World Englishes from the perspective of journal editors and the role they play in norm orientation. The diversity of methodologies adopted in the papers (qualitative, quantitative and mixed) aptly reflects the range of topics that researchers in the field are working on and the corresponding range of analytical tools that are needed to capture the rich tapestry made up from varieties of English around the world.

A major part of the work that goes into the production of a journal comes from the generous support of many colleagues around the world who give of their (typically limited) time freely to take on reviews. It is their expertise and constructive criticism that help maintain the high standard of the published contributions. For the reporting period (August 2023 and July 2024) we gratefully acknowledge the support that was provided by reviewers on manuscripts (including those that had to be rejected), including revised versions of the original submissions (in alphabetical order):

Carolina Amador-Moreno, Zhiming Bao, Tobias Bernaisch, David Britain, Susan Coetzee-Van Rooy, Peter Collins, David Deterding, Gaëtanelle Gilquin, Ulrike Gut, Theresa Heyd, Raymond Hickey, Lars Hinrichs, Thomas Hoffmann, Jos Hornikx, Claudia Lange, Jakob Leimgruber, Sha Liu, Miriam Locher, Christian Mair, Anna Maritz, Laurel McKenzie, Giuliana Regnoli, Sven Leuckert, Raymond Oenbring, Cara Penry Williams, Ingo Plag, Paula Rautionaho, Celeste

Rodriguez Louro, Patricia Ronan, Erik Schleef, Edgar Schneider, Klaus P. Schneider, Daniel Schreier, Devyani Sharma, Peter Siemund, Rebecca Starr, Benedikt Szmrecsanyi, Catherine Travis, Bertus Van Rooy, Caroline Wiltshire and Xinyue Yao.

Part of the fun of editing comes from the meetings that we, as editors, regularly have over Zoom, with (typically early morning) chats that take us well beyond the topic of World Englishes. Both editors would like to thank their editorial assistants, who contribute greatly to the smooth running of operations once papers have been accepted for publication. At the Zurich end, Laetitia Van Driessche and Carlos Hartmann expertly dealt with the manuscripts as (relative) newbies on the job; in Bielefeld, Jonas Wagner and Frederic Zähres as 'old hands' enabled a smooth transition in the team of editorial assistants. Laetitia Van Driessche is already stepping down after the completion of her doctorate this summer. A special thanks goes to her for fitting the editorial work in with finishing her thesis. A warm welcome to Bethany Dallas, who is joining the Zurich team this August. The editors and editorial assistants also gratefully acknowledge the help that our student assistants provided in pre-formatting the individual contributions: Nanina Rüegg (Zurich) and Ariel Brozovich (Bielefeld). Last but not least, we would like to thank the people at Benjamins, Heleen Groesbeek for her continued support with the Editorial Manager and Susan Hendriks, as well as Anke de Looper for expertly seeing the issues through the production process.

MH and AS; August 2024