(1) Final Report Write up (Itemization of books/works discussed, principal participants, invited speakers, financial statement of expenditures. A couple of paragraphs summarizing themes and nature of discussion. Please also refer to the quality of participation and list of books/description)

Talk-in-Interaction: A Qualitative Approach to Linguistic Anthropology

Works Discussed

Together, the group read and discussed the following articles:


Texas.


**Principal participants**

Dr. Emi Morita, NUS Dept of Japanese Studies; Group Coordinator (ipsme@nus.edu.sg)

Dr. Donald Favreau, NUS University Scholars Programme (uspsdf@nus.edu.sg)

Dr. Joseph Park, NUS Dept of English Language and Literature (ellps@nus.edu.sg)

Dr. Mie Hiramoto, NUS Dept of English Language and Literature (ellmhi@nus.edu.sg)

Dr. Rivka Syd Matova Eisner, NUS Dept of English Language and Literature (elitsmei@nus.edu.sg)

Unfortunately Dr. Rivka Eisner was away most of the time as she was doing field work in Vietnam. But the rest of the group met regularly and had many beneficial interdisciplinary insights in discussing the readings.

**Invited speakers**

Dr. Charles Goodwin, Department of Applied Linguistics, UCLA

Dr. Marjorie Harness Goodwin, Department of Anthropology, UCLA

**Financial statement of expenditures**

Airfare 1,788.65 x 2 = SGD 3577.3

Honorarium 200.00 x 2 = SGD 400.00

(income tax of total 100.00 SGD should be added)

Bank charges 10.12 x 2 = SGD 20.24

Catering for seminar  SGD 231.00

Total SGD 4712.54
Themes and nature of discussion

Our group started reading works by Linguistic Anthropologists Charles Goodwin and Marjorie Harness Goodwin. Through our reading of their work, we discussed how each of us can best use naturalistic data in our research and how the Goodwins’ findings are relevant to our own research. In addition to our own regularly held in-depth discussions, we also consulted with both Charles Goodwin and Marjorie Goodwin by e-mail, and they suggested specific helpful further readings. They suggested that we read sociologist Erving Goffman’s work, which heavily influenced the Goodwins’ own work, and so we also included some of Goffman’s articles in our reading. In addition, various group members suggested that we read other studies which were influenced by Goodwins’ work, as well. So we expanded our reading list, and the various research methodologies and their advantages were discussed. We all also found the some of the readings are also suitable as our own teaching material.

For the conclusion of our reading term, we invited both Charles Goodwin and Marjorie Goodwin to give a public talk on August 7, 2009 at NUS. The talk was well attended by more than 60 people from the faculties and student populations of the NUS departments of English Language and Literature, Japanese Studies, Communication and New Media, and the University Scholars Programme, as well as by faculty and students from NTU. As the Goodwins’ pioneering work in the use of naturalistic conversational data for linguistic research is becoming increasingly popular, their talks were truly beneficial to many of us faculty members and also for the students.

Finally, our group also had a small group discussion with Charles Goodwin and Marjorie Goodwin and got advice on our data collection and presentation using multimedia. They also shared their instructional material with us. All in all, we believe that our Talk in Interaction Reading Group was an outstanding success, and we thank those whose funding and encouragement made it possible.