

<p>Institution: University of Central Lancashire</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 28 Modern Languages and Linguistics</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>This unit of assessment (UoA) consists of the following distinct research centres and groupings: the world-renowned <i>International Institute for Sign Languages and Deaf Studies</i> (iSLanDS), the <i>Research Unit for Speech and Language</i> (RUSL), <i>Philosophy and Critical Theory</i>, <i>Applied Linguistics</i>, and the newly-created <i>Emotions, Credibility and Deception</i> (ECD) group. The latter represents one of the successes of the impact-driven development strategy put in place following our RAE2008 success in Linguistics. Led by Archer, the grouping is cross-disciplinary in nature, bringing together UCLAN colleagues from Linguistics, Health and Psychology. The researchers included as part of this submitting unit specialise in: Sign Linguistics, Pragmatics, Prosody, Corpus Linguistics, Critical Discourse Analysis, Forensic Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Philosophy and Critical Theory, Literacy and Language Development, and Digital Technologies for the Language-Learning Process.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Research is one of the main themes of the UCLAN's Medium Term Strategy (MTS), the delivery of which is coordinated by the Research and Innovation Office. In line with the MTS, the research groupings submitted as part of UoA28 are committed to the pursuance of academic excellence, the initiation/continuing development of interdisciplinary research activities and personal and professional development (PPD) of its staff and students.</p> <p>Working in collaboration with the UCLAN Director of Research and Deans of School, Research Leads have focussed on refining institutional systems and structures in ways that lead to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The recruitment of excellent academic staff in key disciplinary areas; here, we can point to the 2011 appointment of Fairclough (critical discourse analyst), the 2012 appointments of Jeon (phonetics specialist) and Satchwell (literacy specialist), and the 2013 appointments of Palfreyman (specialist in sign language sociolinguistics), Prentice (corpus linguistics specialist), Larner (née Tomblin, forensic linguistics specialist) and Richardson (specialist in discursive psychology, not submitted to this UoA, but mentioned here as her specialisms will ensure an effective cross-disciplinary bridge between linguistics and psychology in on-going and future research projects). 2. Effective, structured career progression paths (at all levels) for existing staff – which feed into and are implemented through UCLAN's bi-annual appraisal system and UCLAN's PPD initiatives (see C for more details); here, we can point to Archer's appointment to the post of Professor (in 2011) and to Sieber's appointment to Reader (in 2013). 3. The enabling of inter- and cross-disciplinary collaboration using targeted funding initiatives: see, for example, the 2013 posts in support of ongoing initiatives; 4. Increased postgraduate recruitment in key areas – via, e.g., UCLAN's MA and PhD studentships and innovative taught postgraduate programmes, some of which (e.g., the MSc in Emotions, Credibility and Deception) are targeted towards professionals, organisations and industry (hence increasing external engagement; see next point). From 2008, the UoA has increased its postgraduate numbers threefold (see Section C, <i>Research Students</i>). 5. Engagement in collaborative research and KT activities regionally, nationally and internationally (with support from UCLAN's Innovation and Enterprise Unit); cross-disciplinary research has developed in particular through the expertise and external contacts (commercial and public sector) of Archer. Work relating to credibility and deception detection, in collaboration with academics and practitioners within and beyond UCLAN, although in its early stages, has led to invitations to the Annual Conference for UK Police Negotiators (Archer 2011), a project with the latter exploring suicide data, and projects investigating the <i>framing</i> of cancer in early awareness campaigns (a UCLAN Cancer Studies collaboration with the Lancashire and South Cumbria Cancer Network). New members of the ECD grouping also

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have strong external/public sector links: e.g., Prentice with the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) and Lerner with Child Protection Services in Wales.

We promote individual research success, in respect to 2 & 3 (above), via:

- The organisation of/participation in conferences (often employing QR/School Research Funds);
- The use of competitive seed funding as a means of encouraging external grant capture;
- The encouraging/nurturing of effective partnerships with other HE institutions, agencies, public sector organisations, funding bodies, etc. (e.g., UCREL and the Investigative Expertise Unit, [Lancaster University]; Centre for Conflict, Risk and Safety Perception [University of Twente, the Netherlands]), Centre for Forensic Linguistics [Aston University]);
- Promotion of activities which enhance the reach and significance of researchers' work – e.g. holding positions of influence (as editors, in collaborative networks, within regulatory bodies, etc.); expansion of international activities and networks as a means of advancing knowledge in the arts, humanities and social sciences; contributions to better public policy; enabling social cohesion; supporting international development, etc. (see D., and also separate impact case studies for specific examples).

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

In RAE2008, this UoA focussed on the work of iSLanDS and RUSL. Below, we detail how these particular groups have been expanded and strengthened over the REF period, and also report on our new areas of research growth.

The ***International Institute for Sign Languages and Deaf Studies (iSLanDS)*** is headed by **ZESHAN**, an outstanding researcher known internationally for her studies on Sign Language Typology, endangered sign languages, Sign Multilingualism Studies, and documentation of non-Western sign languages (e.g. in India and Turkey). **PANDA** joined Zeshan in 2006. Panda's research specialisms include sign languages in India, endangered sign languages in village communities, and Applied Sign Linguistics. **PALFREYMAN** joined the iSLanDS team in 2013. He specialises in the sign languages and deaf communities of Indonesia, and has an emerging interest in Applied Sign Linguistics.

The iSLanDS group have a large international network of collaborations, and also work extensively with deaf-community stakeholder groups. Joint work with international partners has included online and distance learning for sign language users (with Indira Gandhi National Open University as well as UK and Indian NGOs); a capacity building project under the Education Partnerships in Africa programme (with the University of Ghana and Kyambogo University in Uganda); a comparative study of endangered sign languages in village communities funded by the AHRC through the European Science Foundation (with universities in Israel, the US, the Netherlands, Jamaica, and Germany), and the Sign Multilingualism project funded by the European Research Council (with partners at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany, at Ankara University in Turkey, and at San Diego State University in the US). Collectively, iSLanDS members have been awarded over **£1.4m** in external research funding from 2008 onwards. The Institute's commitment to embedding its research in a context where it can contribute to the empowerment of deaf communities around the world remains strong: critically endangered sign languages in Bali, Mexico, Israel, India and Turkey are being documented, and their communities empowered, due to the village sign language project.

Additional activities based on research led by iSLanDS include training for groups of deaf peer tutors for English literacy in India (16 in 2011, 14 in 2013); a BA in Applied Sign Language Studies as well as a preparatory university access course at the National Open University in India, both specifically designed for deaf learners' needs to provide academically able deaf students with access to university (the programme has had 70 deaf students from 9 developing countries); curriculum design for a diploma in deaf studies for delivery at Kyambogo University in Uganda; West Africa's first university-level sign language course on linguistic principles at the University of Ghana (ca. 50 students each year); and English literacy peer tutor training for deaf people in Jordan together with the local British Council (52 participants in 2013).

Since April 2008, original members of the ***Research Unit for Speech and Language (RUSL)*** -

Archer, Finnis and Wichmann - have been advancing the three main strands of research reported in RAE2008 - corpus linguistics, discourse/pragmatics and speech prosody. **ARCHER** is well-known internationally for her work relating to the historical courtroom, her pragmatics-based research more generally (historical and modern), including work which brings together corpus linguistics and pragmatics (see, e.g., her pragmatic annotation schemes), and her (co-) development of computational tools to assist in the linguistic analysis of historical texts. The tools – the spelling variant detector known as VARD and the Historical Semantic Tagger (a development of the UCREL Semantic Annotation System [USAS]) – are of use to not only corpus users from a range of academic disciplines (Literature, Linguistics, History, etc.) but also dictionary developers, and researchers who draw computational language models from historical corpora for search engines. More recently, Archer has initiated the ECD Research Group - a cross-disciplinary endeavour which engages its researchers in teaching, KT and research activities (see below).

WICHMANN continues to work closely with RUSL colleagues as Professor Emerita of Speech and Language. One example of this - which also demonstrates UCLAN's commitment to research-informed teaching - is the Routledge *Pragmatics Advanced Resource Book*, written by Archer, Aijmer (Professor Emerita of English, University of Gothenburg, Sweden) and Wichmann. As an extension of her work on prosody, Wichmann is increasingly influencing current thinking within grammaticalisation and discourse marker research. Her study of parenthesis, including collaborative work with Dehé (Konstanz), has contributed to the understanding of the interface between syntax, prosody and discourse. Her work applying accommodation theory to speech has advanced the study of intonational meaning and has implications for the study of attitudinal prosody, including the prosody of conflict.

FINNIS has enhanced her research profile in the areas of code-switching (English/Greek-Cypriot) and discursive constructions of identity (British-born Greek-Cypriots in London) – including individual participation in communities of practice and language and gender. Her most recent work focuses on Third Space and narrative constructions of identity. Finnis and Archer have maintained the cross-disciplinary collaboration with Professor Christopher Williams (Liverpool Hope) reported in RAE2008: all have contributed to the multidisciplinary *Pragmatics and Society* Special Issue on the theme: 'Space for all(?): perspectives on minority languages and identity across the European continent' (2013).

Since RAE2008, RUSL has been further consolidated via two strategic appointments – Fairclough (October 2011) and Jeon (September 2012). **FAIRCLOUGH** brings extensive experience of critical discourse analytical approaches, including an approach to argumentation theory she has personally co-devised with Norman Fairclough (see *Political Discourse Analysis*, Fairclough and Fairclough 2012). Fairclough joining RUSL has enabled the emergence of promising synergies in the broader area of (Critical) Discourse Studies generally, and *conflict* more specifically (with Archer and Wichmann). **JEON**'s work on Korean prosody particularly complements the work of Wichmann and, hence, UCLAN's prosody-based research.

The newly-created ***Emotions, Credibility and Deception*** grouping has benefitted from three 2013 appointments, two of whom - Prentice and Larner -are submitted to this UoA. **PRENTICE** is a corpus linguist who also specialises in forensic linguistics (and related fields of persuasion, rhetoric, argumentation and ideology): much of her work, to date, has explored the language of extremism, hate speech and nationalism. **LARNER** is also a forensic linguist but his interests lie more in the areas of authorship analysis (and relationship to idiolect) and deception detection (including cross-cultural deception detection and intercultural communication). Larner's research to date has focussed on the extent to which formulaic sequences (i.e., words believed to be stored as single lexical items) can act as markers of authorship (similar to sentence length, typographic errors, spelling errors, unusual stylistic collocations, etc.). The work is interdisciplinary in scope, drawing on both psycho- and sociolinguistic theories of formulaic sequences.

SIEBERS' move to the Linguistics teaching team, following RAE2008, has enabled the development of a ***Philosophy and Critical Theory*** strand at UCLAN. Siebers specialises in the thought of Ernst Bloch, whose utopian expressionist writings he investigates, contextualises and uses as the basis for further theory development: hence his work on the philosophy of communication and language (including work with Sell (Turku) on 'literature as communication'), social philosophy, critical theory and rhetoric, and in relevant aspects of the history of German thought of the 19th and 20th centuries. Siebers was joined by **FELL** in 2009. An early career researcher, Fell's specialisms include temporality and memory. Fell and Siebers have worked

together on two AHRC-funded Connected Communities projects exploring the relation between the concepts of 'community' and 'future' (2011-12; £20,300) and perceptions of 'time' (2012-12; £100,000).

UCLAN's **Applied Linguistics** grouping includes work at the interface of Education. **SATCHWELL** is newly appointed (end 2012), and researches into literacy practices in Education and in everyday life. Her work is distinctive for examining the ways in which people 'do' reading and writing across formal and informal contexts to make meaning, to communicate, and to learn. **THOMAS (appointed 2010)** specialises in digital technologies and education (including computer-assisted language learning (CALL); Web 2.0/ social media/ digital literacies; and online and distance language learning), task-based language learning and teaching (TBLT) and the synergies between language, literacy and technology.

UCLAN was successful in gaining their HR Excellence in Research Award, receiving formal confirmation from the European Commission in August 2011. More recently, UCLAN has been commended for its implementation of the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers*. UCLAN initiatives include the development and delivery, from 2010, of the Researcher Toolkit for early career researchers and the Research Leaders Development Programme (RLDP) and its on-going commitment to a University-level Sabbatical Scheme. Archer, who was a member of the University's Concordat task-team, completed the RLDP in 2011. Archer was also instrumental in the initiation of the UCLAN Researcher Toolkit prior to it being taken up by the Research Development and Support team: this demonstrates the commitment of this UoA to securing clear career progression paths for researchers. Such staff development is closely tied to:

1. Regular mentoring sessions at the Research group level (led by Archer and Zeshan).
2. The bi-annual School Appraisal Process. This process is specifically linked to training and mentoring opportunities at the subject, School and University level. ECRs, in particular, are given online training opportunities (this includes the Epigeum Research Skills Programme).
3. A competitive University sabbatical scheme. Archer, Finnis, Siebers and Thomas have each benefitted from the sabbatical scheme since 2008.
4. QR research funding; since RAE2008, £495,698 of QR funding has been internally allocated to support the research activities of UoA 28-related researchers. The University has also provided strategic funding for appointments in key areas within this UoA, specifically, lecturers in corpus linguistics and forensic linguistics, and Research Fellows in discursive psychology and sign linguistics.

In respect to 1-through-3, UoA28 research leads, in consultation with Deans of School, seek to achieve an appropriate balance between the scholarly, organisational and operational demands upon research-active staff so that research, teaching and administration can be carried out to the best of researchers' abilities. Dedicated research days for all are protected as part of UCLAN's workload model. In respect to 4, QR funding has been used to enable researchers to present at inter/ national conferences; to engage in specialized off-campus training (not offered within UCLAN); to run or to attend networking events; to organize Symposia; and to initiate pilot/proof of concept projects (with a view to applying for subsequent external funding). Some QR funding is also set aside for research assistants, MA bursaries and the Linguistics and Literature Research Symposium, a monthly Lecture Series which targets speakers of international renown in our strength areas.

ii. Research students

The recruitment, induction, progression and examination of postgraduate research students at UCLAN is supported by the Research Student Registry. Over the past few years, concerted efforts have been made to make registration, annual monitoring and progression activities more effective. Ways in which this is achieved currently include: the on-going training of School Research Degree Tutors (of which Thomas is one), the use of supervisory teams that obligatorily include an experienced supervisor; annual supervisory training opportunities for staff.

We are committed to growing postgraduate numbers; we have a long-standing strategy of directing potential research students towards the full-time and part-time Master by Research programme as a preparation for doctoral studies. Since RAE2008 we can report the completion of 3(.25) doctorates, one MPhil and 9 MAs by Research; with a further three PhDs due to complete in

(early) 2014. UCLAN staff submitted to UoA28 are currently (co-)supervising 14 MPhil/PhD students, 5 EdD (professional doctoral) students and 9 MA/MSc/MEd by Research students. Two of our current PhD students are funded through UCLAN's competitive studentship scheme, with a further two commencing in Jan 2014.

A substantial number of our postgraduate research students are working in areas that affect linguistic and/or socio-cultural issues on an international scale. Internationalisation in the postgraduate context is a particular strength of iSLanDS: five of its eight MA and MPhil/PhD students are from overseas, namely, Israel, Turkey, Uganda, India, and Japan. All research students are deaf. In addition, iSLanDS boasts numerous international partnerships with universities and international non-governmental organisations as mentioned above. The Sign Language Typology project on semantic fields led by Zeshan includes a network of international research partners from 25 countries. The comparative analysis of data contributed by these partners is led by iSLanDS, and this is the largest comparative research project on sign languages in the world.

As evidence of the development of a research culture into which postgraduate students (taught and by research) are fully integrated/prepared for further research activity, we can point to our commitment to providing them with opportunities to improve their employability/soft skills in addition to receiving generic and discipline-specific skills training and development. To complement the programme provided by the Research Student Registry, for example, workshops on employability and discipline-specific skills that are an obligatory part of taught postgraduate programmes are also available to research postgraduates. Postgraduate students (and ECRs) also participate in subject-level training at a regional level, in addition to the different Research Seminars available across this UoA. The Research Carousel and Preston Linguistics and Literature Circle largely serve the needs of SoLLIS staff, including postgraduates who share the same research interests. The purpose of these more specific, inward-facing groups is to provide postgraduates and early-career staff, in particular, the opportunity of developing their research ideas and presentational skills in a safe, friendly environment. PROGRESS – the UCLAN Postgraduate Research Society – provides another level of support to postgraduates, and has the added benefit of bringing together research students from across the institution via a range of activities (external guest speakers, social and educational trips, etc.). Postgraduate students within the UoA (co)publish in peer-reviewed journals and edited collections (see, e.g., Toddington's 2008 '(Im)politeness...in *Othello*' paper for *The State of Stylistics* (Rodopi)). A number of publishing opportunities also exist for undergraduate students, postgraduate students and ECRs within UCLAN. They include two new on-line journals hosted by the School of Language, Literature and International Studies (SoLLIS): *Journal of Second Language Teaching and Research* – www.uclan.ac.uk/jsltr (Thomas, General Editor)– and *Intercultural Promenades: Journal of Modern Languages and International Studies* – www.uclan.ac.uk/interculturalpromenades.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

External income - The iSLanDS group have captured a number of very prestigious awards, most notably the ERC's "Multilingual behaviours in sign language users" (EUR 1.2m for 2011-2016) and the AHRC's "Endangered sign languages in village communities" (£219,000) through the ESF's EUROCORES (EuroBabel strand). Both were awarded to Zeshan, whose grant total of £1.1m for external income in 2008-2013 also includes (i) the British Council projects under the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (£51,500) and the Education Partnerships in Africa (£58,700), and (ii) the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (£74,980). In addition:

- iSLanDS PhD student Lutalo-Kiingi won £38,000 in funding as PI for a sign language documentation project in Cameroon in 2012.
- Siebers has secured a total of £280,300 of funding from the AHRC's Connected Communities schemes, which has allowed him to investigate the discourse of community formation.
- Panda has secured £6,000 from the Endangered Language Documentation Programme.
- Thomas has secured £4,500 from the HEA to support a series of UCLAN-based symposia on "Advances in Digital Language and Teaching" (April 2012) and "Open Educational Resources in Languages" (June 2012) and £4,000 from the ESRC DSR Fund for "Digital Methodologies in Educational Research" (May 2013).

Since January 2008, a cumulative total of £1,751,800 of external research funding has been captured by the UoA, with £1.133M audited expenditure reported here. Policy and practice in relation to research governance are determined by both University- and School-level Research and Knowledge Transfer Committees (including an e-ethics committee). Researchers are further supported by UCLAN's Funding Development & Support (FDS) Unit, which undertakes full costing of research and related activities, and the University Business Partner Unit (BPU), which is responsible for the financial management/audit of projects once a grant has been awarded. UCLAN's Innovation and Enterprise Unit and Strategic Development Services additionally support new research programmes with external partners.

Infrastructure and facilities - All UCLAN Schools and Centres contribute to the support of UCLAN Estates, Facilities, IT Resources and Library Resources. Facility Management staff regularly offer advisory sessions for researchers to learn about the various provisions available. The UCLAN Library maintains a comprehensive, state-of-the-art provision including a host of on-line resources from JSTOR to a vast ebook catalogue, all accessible through Remote Access. In addition, UCLAN has invested considerable internal funds in UoA-specific facilities and advanced equipment/IT resources, as a means of advancing/strengthening research. They include dedicated, high-tech labs (i) for corpus, acoustic, and forensic analysis, (ii) applied and translation analysis (teaching and research-based), and (iii) sign language research for this particular UoA.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

We have substantial links with academic colleagues in other institutions. For example, Archer, Fairclough, Siebers, Wichmann and Zeshan have given master classes inter/nationally (Archer, corpus linguistics and/or pragmatics master classes to Lancaster, Leeds, Helsinki and Santiago de Compostela postgraduate students and researchers; Fairclough, argumentation/CDA master classes to Helsinki and Tampere postgraduate students; Siebers, philosophy master classes to London University students; Wichmann, corpus linguistics master classes to Aston University students, and prosody and discourse to PhD students in Brazil; Zeshan, sign language typology at international summer schools in Cagliari and Leipzig). In the period since 2008, Archer has maintained her collaboration with Rayson and Baron, as part of UCREL (Lancaster University), as a means of continuing her tool development work; she's also developed very strong links with Glasgow and VARIENG (University of Helsinki), in respect to both her corpus linguistic and (historical) pragmatics research. Wichmann and Prentice, like Archer, are associate members of UCREL. Wichmann has collaborated extensively with Dehé (Konstanz), in her work on parentheticals, and Aijmer (Gothenburg) and Vandenberg (Ghent), in her work on discourse markers. Prentice has collaborated with Rayson; both in respect to the language of extremism and also in respect to the expansion of the lexicon behind the Wmatrix tool. She is also affiliated/collaborates with colleagues from the Centre for Conflict, Risk and Safety Perception (University of Twente, the Netherlands). Larner is an associate consultant with Aston's Centre for Forensic Linguistics: this involves him in casework, in addition to being part of the research network. Siebers is a member of both the 'Return of Religion' research network (AHRC), itself a part of the Ernst Bloch Studies Centre (Sheffield), and the 'Freud in Translation' research network (AHRC), IGRS (School of Advanced Study, University of London). In addition to collaborations with Thompson (Bloch research project, Sheffield) and Marshall (IGRS, London), Siebers has close research ties with Manchester University, via Bastian (Connected Communities projects) and Turnbull (Rhetoric project). Zeshan has extensive collaborations with academic colleagues throughout the world, including Michaelis (Max Planck Institute, Leipzig), Levinson (Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen) and Emmorey (San Diego) as part of the Sign Multilingualism project, and Nonaka (Texas, Austin), Nyst (Leiden), Adone (Cologne, Germany), Cumberbatch (University of the West Indies) and Meir (University of Haifa), under the EUROCORES village sign language project.

Other markers of the calibre of researchers within this UoA28 include their involvement on/in:

- *Review Panels/Boards*: Archer, Siebers, Wichmann and Zeshan each sit on Research Advisory Panels. Archer and Zeshan have been members of the ESRC peer review college since 2010;

Zeshan is also a reviewer for the European Science Foundation. Wichmann acted as a member of the AHRC peer review college from 2007-2011; Siebers currently acts as a peer reviewer for the AHRC's Connected Communities Programme, and for the European Science Foundation.

- **Editorial positions:** Archer is co-editor of the *Journal of Historical Pragmatics* (with Prof. Laurel Brinton). Siebers is general editor of a book series of translations of, and critical commentaries on, Bloch's works (currently under development), and is Vice-President of the *Ernst Bloch Gesellschaft*. He is also founder and editor of *Empedocles – European Journal of Philosophy and Communication*. Thomas is Founder and Lead Editor of three book series including, *Advances in Digital Language Learning and Teaching* (Bloomsbury) and *Digital Education and Learning* (Palgrave Macmillan). He is also Founder of *International Journal of Virtual and Personal Learning Environments* and Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Computer-Assisted Language Learning and Teaching*, and a member of the editorial boards of *Research in Learning Technology*, *Asian EFL Journal*, *Asian ESP Journal* and the *International Journal of Emerging Technologies and Society*. Wichmann is a member of the editorial board for newly-established *Yearbook of Corpus Linguistics and Pragmatics*. Zeshan is co-editor at De Gruyter Mouton of the Sign Language Typology series and the Sign Languages and Deaf Communities series, and Editor-in-chief for Ishara Press.
- **Conference/specialist workshop (co-)organisation:** Archer, Wichmann and Lancaster University colleagues co-organised a two -day workshop, 'Text-mining in the Digital Humanities: The Interface between Conceptual History, Critical Discourse Analysis and Corpus Linguistics' (May 2010: <http://ucrel.lancs.ac.uk/events/chcdac12010/>). Archer - again with Lancaster colleagues - also co-organised a workshop on *Corpus Analysis with Noise in the Signal* (CANS), as part of Lancaster University's CL2013 (July 2013, <http://ucrel.lancs.ac.uk/cl2013/workshops.php#noisesig>). Fairclough co-organized a panel on Discourse and Argumentation at the 8th *Interpretive Policy Analysis Conference* (July 2013, Vienna). iSLanDS with Zeshan and Panda organises the SIGN conference series (SIGN3, UCLAN, Feb 2008; SIGN4, New Delhi, Dec 2009; SIGN5, Ankara, Oct 2011; SIGN6, Goa, Feb 2013). Zeshan also organised *Kinship and Numeral Systems from Cross-Linguistic and Cross-Modal Perspectives*, EUROCORES workshop, UCLAN, Sept 2011. Thomas organised *Distance Language Learning*, IATEFL 45th Annual International Conference, Brighton, April 2011; *Teaching Business English with Digital Technologies*, IATEFL BESIG, UCLAN, June 2011; five *International Symposia on Digital Technologies and Foreign Language Learning*, IATEFL and JALT, Japan 2007-2012; and *TBL in Asia: Opportunities and Challenges*, May 2012. Siebers organised *Power, Time and Agency – Exploring the role of critical temporalities*, AHRC Research Network Temporal Belongings Conference, University of Manchester, July 2012.
- **Reviewing experience:** Six researchers - Archer, Finnis, Siebers, Wichmann, Thomas and Zeshan – regularly review for journals, funding bodies, and/or publishing houses. Archer and Siebers have also acted as reviewers for Digging into Data Challenge proposals (Archer, 2011), Connected Communities research proposals (Siebers, 2011) and HERA proposals (Archer, 2012/13). Zeshan has reviewed for the Volkswagen Foundation and for research councils in the US, Germany, and Australia.
- **Invited keynotes and lectures:** Since 2008, Archer, Fairclough, Thomas, Wichmann and Zeshan have given invited keynotes/plenaries at universities in the UK, Spain, the US, Finland, Romania, Sweden, France, Italy, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Poland. In addition, iSLanDS PhD student Lutalo-Kiingi presented an invited keynote lecture at the 6th World Congress of African Linguistics in Cologne (2009); and Panda was invited by the Rehabilitation Council of India to speak at the National Meeting of Rehabilitation Experts (Punjab, March 2011), where he won the award of "Best Rehabilitation Professional".
- **External positions held:** Panda is Vice President of the Indian Sign Language Interpreter Association (2008-present) and the All India Federation of the Deaf (New Delhi, 2010-present); a founding member and trustee of the Ishara Foundation (Mumbai, 2005-present), board member of the Sign Language Linguistics Society (2008-2012), and General Secretary of the Deaf Empowerment Foundation (Netherlands, 2004-present). Zeshan is the President of the Deaf Empowerment Foundation, Ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK, and has provided consultancy to UNESCO on sign language endangerment. Panda and Zeshan sit on expert committees of the World Federation of the Deaf.