Sign Languages: spinning and unraveling the past, present and future. TISLR9, forty five papers and three posters from the 9th THEORETICAL ISSUES IN SIGN LANGUAGE RESEARCH CONFERENCE Florianopolis, Brazil, December 2006.

Edited by Ronice Müller de Quadros
The **TISLR** is the world’s most important international conference for sign language studies. The nine edition of the conference attracted researchers who work in various sign languages that have different and similar linguistic typologies. The studies encompass various areas of linguistics from formal to applied studies. The conference have exhibited a significant development of studies of an increasing number of sign languages. This growth in research, shared and published through the editions of **TISLR**, gives visibility to sign languages from countries such as Brazil and creates opportunities for comparative analysis. It has thus become an event that goes beyond borders. The **TISLR 9** was a space for socialization of studies about the world’s different sign languages that seeks explanations for linguistic facts considering the visual-spatial modality that is specific to these languages. For the first time, the event was being held outside North America and Europe and included the participation of researchers from throughout the world, and in particular, Brazilian researchers who have been studying Brazilian sign language to make this a special edition of **TISLR**. We had researchers represented from 33 different countries in Brazil, from December 6th to 9th, in 2006, at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina.

The theme of the 9th edition of **TISLR** was the development of sign language studies from the 1960’s until today with a look at lines of research for the future. The conference title was: **Sign Languages: spinning and unraveling the past, present and future**. There were presentations from the scholars who conducted the first sign language studies, as well as researchers who are indicating new directions for study. This volume brings 45 papers e 3 posters presented during the conference available in an electronic version without any cost. This is possible, because we had financial support from Brazilian Federal funding from CNPq, CAPES, MEC/SEESP, FINEP and CORDE. Giving continuity to previous editions, interlinguistic studies were on the agenda, because they contributed to a delineation of the linguistic universals of the visual-spatial modality in relation to the oral-auditory modality.

*Ronice Müller de Quadros*
A Lexical Comparison of Sign Languages in the Arab World

Kinda Al-Fityani
Carol Padden

Locative Constructions in Turkish Sign Language (TID)

Engin Arik

Mouth morphemes in ASL: A closer look

J. Albert Bickford
Kathy Fraychineaud

A cross-linguistic study of word segmentation in three sign languages

Diane Brentari
Ronnie Wilbur

The Effects of ASL on Co-speech Gesture in Hearing Native Signers

Shannon Casey
Karen Emmorey

Português (L2) e LIBRAS (L1): Desenvolvimento de estruturas de posse na interlíngua

Adriana Cristina Chan-Vianna

The non- (existent) native signer: sign language research in a small deaf population

Brendan Costello
Javier Fernández
Alazne Landa

Inalienable Possession in British Sign Language

Jordan Fenlon
Kearsy Cormier

The systems of numerals in Catalan Sign language (LSC) and Spanish Sign Language (LSE): a comparative study

Maria del Pilar Fernández Viader
Mariana Fuentes

Sign description: how geometry and graphing serve linguistic issues

Michael Filho
Annelies Braffort

The morpho-phonetic structuring of LSF (French Sign Language)

Brigitte Garcia
Dominique Boutet
Gaëlle Roch

Short Term Memory and Sign Languages: Reduced Resources and Full Languages

Carlo Geraci
Marta Gozzi
Costanza Papagno
Carlo Cecchetto
Narrative in sign language: a view on classifiers
Zilda Maria Gesueli

American Sign Language – Sentence Reproduction Test: Development & Implications
Raylene Paludnevièiene.
Peter C. Hauser
Ted Supalla
Daphne Bavelier

Agreement verbs in Korean Sign Language (KSL)
Sung-Eun Hong

Symmetry in Sign Language Haiku
Michiko Kaneko

Sign Phonology Acquisition in Brazilian Sign Language
Lodenir Becker Karnopp

Sign Language Biological Motion Perception Perception of sign language and human actions
Heather Patterson Knapp
Hansang Cho
David P. Corina

How to describe mouth patterns in the Danish Sign Language Dictionary
Jette Hedegaard Kristoffersen
Janne Boye Niemelä

Sign Language Acquisition Studies: Past, Present And Future
Diane Lillo-Martin

Variation in ASL: The Role of Grammatical Function
Ceil Lucas
Robert Bayley

Sociolinguistic Variation in NZSL Numerals
David McKee
Rachel McKee
George Major

An innovative proposal of a Phonological Coefficient of Gesture-Sign Proximity to analyse gestures production in Brazilian Sign Language.
Mecca, F.F.D.N; Lichtig, I.

Modality and Language Acquisition: Resources & Constraints in Early Sign Learning
Richard P. Meier

The morphological realization of semantic fields
Irit Meir
Re-Thinking Sign Language Verb Classes: the body as subject
Irit Meir
Carol Padden
Mark Aronoff
Wendy Sandler

Considering Sign Language and Deaf Culture in Computer Mediated Communication (CMC) Environments: Initial Explorations and Concerns
Maria Mertzani

The Speaker’s Eye Gaze Creating deictic, anaphoric and pseudo-deictic spaces of reference
Laurence Meurant

“Construction in Eritrean Sign Language: an Anthropological Linguistic Perspective” Conference paper from TISLR-9, Florianopolis, Brazil
Poster Session
Rezenet Moges

Cooperation in Interpretation
Jemina Napier

Perspective and the Use of Signing Space: Spatial Strategies in Descriptive Discourse.
Nilsson

Wordlist Comparisons
Stephen Parkhurst

Possession and existence in three sign languages
Deborah Chen Pichler
Katharina Schalber
Julie Hochgesang
University of Zagreb
Ronnie B. Wilbur
Martina Vulje
Ljubica Pribanić

Child-Directed Signing in ASL and Children’s Development of Joint Attention
Ginger Pizer
Richard P. Meier

Deixis, Anaphora and Highly Iconic Structures: Crosslinguistic Evidence on American (ASL), French (LSF) and Italian (LIS) Signed Languages
Elena Pizzuto
Paolo Rossini
Marie-Anne Sallandre
Erin Wilkinson

Bilingual acquisition of German Sign Language and written German: Developmental asynchronies and language contact
Carolina Plaza Pust
J. W. Goethe
Back to back(wards) and moving on: on agreement, auxiliaries and verb classes in sign languages
Ronice Müller de Quadros
Josep Quer

The Semantics, Syntax and Phonology of Adverbial Nonmanuals in Austrian and American Sign Language
Katharina Schalber
Donovan Grose

Sign Language Archeology: Integrating Historical Linguistics with Fieldwork on Young Sign Languages
Ted Supalla

Images of Deaf Culture and Identity in Sign Language Poetry
Rachel Sutton-Spence

Is Hong Kong Sign Language a discourse-configurational language?
Felix SZE

Acquiring verb agreement in HKSL: Optional or obligatory?
Gladys Tang
Scholastica Lam
Felix Sze
Prudence Lau
Jafi Lee

Gesture and ASL L2 Acquisition
Sarah Taub
Dennis Galvan
Pilar Piñar
Susan Mather

An electronic dictionary of Danish Sign Language
Thomas Troelsgård
Jette Hedegaard Kristoffersen

Do hands sign? Do mouths speak?
Bencie Woll
Cheryl Capek
Dafydd Waters
Ruth Campbell
Mairead MacSweeney
Mick Brammer
Phil McGuire
Tony David

Early acquisition in deaf and hearing native signers: insights from the BSL MacArthur-Bates CDI
Tyron Woolfe

Roots, leaves and branches – The typology of sign languages
Ulrike Zeshan