

Preface and Acknowledgements

The present book is one of two edited collections to appear from a Round Table held at the University of Copenhagen in June 2014 on *Sociolinguistics and the Talking Media: Style, Mediation and Change*.¹ At the Round Table and in the two collections, a total of 30 researchers were invited to debate theoretical issues at the interface between language, change and the ‘talking media’, and to report new research with a shared focus on the notions of style, mediation and sociolinguistic change.

As organisers of the Copenhagen Round Table we would like to express our gratitude to the participants for devoting their time and energy to the event, also to the Department of Nordic Research at the University of Copenhagen for hosting it, and to the Department of Nordic Research and the LANCHART Research Centre for providing financial support. As editors of the book, we would like to thank all authors for their remarkable patience and never-ending willingness to engage in discussions about their contributions.

The project would not have been possible without the general framework, inspiration and funding provided by the research endeavour known as SLICE, headed by Tore Kristiansen at the University of Copenhagen. SLICE, an acronym for Standard Language Ideology in Contemporary Europe, is a collective research network and an evolving project which promotes pioneering approaches to the investigation of sociolinguistic change, and we hope the book will contribute to that general aim. This is the third volume in a book series devoted to consolidating and disseminating the achievements of the SLICE programme. For more information about SLICE, see the network’s website, <http://lanchart.hum.ku.dk/research/slice/>. We want to thank Tore Kristiansen for his encouragement, support and labour without which this book would not have come to fruition. We also want to thank LANCHART’s director, Frans Gregersen, for inspiring this area of research, and certainly for inspiring us to develop the Round Table and this book.

¹ The partner volume from the Round Table is published under the title *Style, Mediation and Change: Sociolinguistic Perspectives on Talking Media*, edited by Mortensen, Coupland and Thøgersen, in press from Oxford University Press. That collection of chapters focuses on mediated style and styles from an interactional sociolinguistic perspective, without sharing this book’s focus on (standard) language ideologies and media-led dialect variation and change in different contexts. Nevertheless, both books share a critical sociolinguistic perspective on language, media and change, and can usefully be read in parallel. As we mention in the Introduction chapter, it will also be useful to refer back to the first two books in the SLICE book-series for background information and earlier research within the remit of the SLICE project.

Nikolas Coupland's contribution to the book was supported through his affiliations to both the University of Copenhagen and University of Technology Sydney throughout the period when this book was conceived, planned and developed. Similarly, Janus Mortensen's work on the book would not have been possible without his successive appointments at Roskilde University and the University of Copenhagen.

JT, NC and JM
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