

Introduction

This series, which began in 1995, provides an ongoing forum for current data-based research on the various aspects of sociolinguistics in Deaf communities around the world. The first volume contained papers revealing the variety and range of sociolinguistic issues currently facing Deaf communities in the United States, Canada, and the Philippines. The papers in this second volume provide fascinating accounts of communities in Bali, Indonesia; Venezuela; and Italy; and they extend our knowledge of multicultural communities within the U.S. Deaf community by looking at gay, lesbian, and bisexual signs; as well as analyzing how American Sign Language is used in dialogue, narration, and second-language learning.

It is my hope that the volumes in this series will help us expand our understanding of the richness and complexity of sociolinguistics in Deaf communities.

I am grateful to the contributors to this second volume and to the members of the advisory board for their hard work in putting this volume together. And as always, I also gratefully acknowledge Ivey Pittle Wallace, Managing Editor of Gallaudet University Press, who continues to have a sense of humor even after all of the hard work.

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