# Letter from the editors

York University has a rich community of researchers engaged in linguistic study in both the Keele campus's Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics and the Glendon campus's Department of Linguistics and Language studies. Students from the undergraduate to doctoral level are engaging with important topics including language and gender, language and law, formal syntax, semantics, phonetics, and phonology, linguistic anthropology, psycholinguistics, language learning and teaching, translation, and much more. However, much of this valuable work is shared only within the limits of a single class.

Working papers in Applied Linguistics and Linguistics at York (WALLY) aims to provide a venue for sharing this exciting student work through an accessible and supportive publishing process. We invite students to share their work and learn about the academic publishing process in a low risk, high reward environment that we hope will build their confidence in their work, support them in developing their academic writing, and encourage them to pursue future publishing opportunities in a range of academic venues. WALLY also supports the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics's annual YorkU Graduate Symposium in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, serving as the host of its proceedings, published for the first time in this issue.

WALLY is published in annual rolling issues which, starting in 2022, will open on January 1st and close on December 31st. Symposium proceedings will be published as a block each year in the autumn. We invite submissions all year round.

This issue, as both WALLY's first issue and the first annual proceedings of the YorkU Graduate Symposium in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, represents an initial milestone in what we hope will prove to be a long history of supporting and sharing student research in linguistics and applied linguistics at York. This issue celebrates our graduate students who shared their diverse research projects at this year's symposium and invites readers to consider how their work fits into this range of topics, initiate collaborations with their peers, and prepare to share their work either in the symposium, WALLY, or both.

This volume begins with two papers discussing issues around language use on a macro scale. We begin with "Artificial intelligence language models and the false fantasy of participatory language policies" by Mandy Lau, which critically examines online language policy and planning, focusing on the discriminatory effects of using neural language models. Brittney O'Neill's "He, (s)he/she, and they: Language ideologies and ideological conflict in gendered language reform" follows. In this paper, Brittney reviews linguistic and ideological issues surrounding anti-sexist and anti-cis-sexist language reform. We then shift to two papers that examine language used to navigate experiences often treated as peripheral by mainstream society. "Language, food, and identity in the borderlands of El Paso" by Rudi Barwin looks at the discourses of identity and resistance in a series of "food story" interviews with El Paso locals. Next, "Meta-discourses of disability among people with Multiple Sclerosis" by Ana-Maria Jerca discusses how individuals with MS in a Reddit sub-community identify with or resist the term disabled. We close the volume with two experimental studies on language use. Katie Slemp's paper, "Attitudes towards varied inclusive language use in Spanish on Twitter" looks at factors influencing Twitter users' perception of inclusive language innovations in Spanish, such as -@, -x, and -e. Finally, Anda Neagu's paper, "On the acceptability of multiple interrogatives in Italian", examines the growing acceptability of two WhPs within the same clause in Italian (a phenomenon previously deemed

ungrammatical) and explores potential contact-induced motivations for it. These papers will be followed by further submissions received in 2021, including papers not presented at the symposium.

We thank the authors for submitting their compelling research and also extend our sincere gratitude to Prof. Geoff Lawrence, our faculty sponsor, and Tomasz Mrozewski, digital publishing librarian at York, without whom this journal would not exist.

We hope you enjoy these contributions from the 2021 YorkU Graduate Symposium in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, and we warmly invite you to contribute your work to WALLY. We look forward to continuing to enrich this rolling 2021 volume, and the volumes to follow it, with your contributions.

Best wishes for a successful fall semester!

Sincerely,

Brittney O'Neill    &    Ana-Maria Jerca
WALLY Editor              WALLY Editor