

FOR
MICHAEL CLYNE

FROM SOME OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

APRIL 1, 2005

EDITED BY
FELICITY GREY, JOHN HAJEK AND SANDRA KIPP

RUMACCC, THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
2005

For Michael—

*Scholar, teacher, colleague, mentor, language enthusiast, innovator,
activist, host extraordinaire and friend.*

*So many have benefited from your unique gifts. The following pages pay
tribute to your outstanding skills as a scholar and a teacher, as well as to the
humility, generosity and good humour which have characterised your remarkable
career. We wish you the best of health, much happiness and great satisfaction in
whatever you choose to undertake in the next phase of your journey
(although you will note that nobody seems to believe you are capable of retiring!).*

*Editors: Felicity Grey, John Hajek and Sandra Kipp
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LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Colleagues from Monash University	1
Leslie Bodi	1
A Tribute from Linguistics	6
Heather Bowe	6
Susanne Döpke	7
Edina Eisikovits	8
Mark Newbrook	10
Anne Pauwels	10
Laura Warner	11
Jo Winter	12
Andrew Markus	13
John McKay	13
Bruce Wearne	15
PhD Students—Past and Present	17
Lesley Farrell	17
Eve Fesl	18
Carla Finocchiaro	19
Margaret Gearon	20
Jim Hlavac	22
Jimmy Hoeks	23
Jo Hughson	24
Daphne Huang	25
Marie-Thérèse Jensen	26
Fred Klarberg	27
Brigitte Lambert	28
Deborah Neil	28
Howard Nicholas	29

Uldis Ozolins	30
Doris Schüpbach	31
Ingrid Seebus.....	32
Yvette Slaughter	33
Andrea Truckenbrodt.....	33
Roula Tsokalidou.....	34
Lin Zheng.....	36
Colleagues from the University of Melbourne	39
The School of Languages and the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics.....	39
A Tribute from the Research Unit for Multilingual and Cross-Cultural Communication Executive	40
Meredith Bartlett and Sandra Leane.....	41
Sue Fernandez.....	42
Felicity Grey	43
Sandra Kipp	43
Anya Woods.....	46
Australian and International Colleagues	47
Dick Baldauf	47
Klaus-Dieter Baumann.....	48
Alan Bell.....	48
Werner and Katja Besch.....	50
Camilla Bettoni	51
Sally Boyd	52
David Bradley.....	54
Anne Cutler.....	55
Kees de Bot.....	56
Konrad Ehlich	57
Joshua Fishman	59

Beat Glauser.....	60
Janet Holmes	62
Werner Kallmeyer.....	63
Bob Kaplan	65
Miklós Kontra	66
Gerhard Leitner	68
Li Wei.....	70
Helen Moore.....	71
Pieter Muysken.....	72
Carol Myers-Scotton	73
John Nieuwenhuysen.....	74
Manfred Pienemann	76
Angelika Redder	77
Patrick Stevenson.....	78
Roly Sussex.....	79

(Some contributors may fall into more than one category.)

COLLEAGUES FROM MONASH UNIVERSITY



LESLIE BODI

Michael Clyne: an extraordinary life and career

As an old friend and colleague I have had the good fortune of witnessing Michael's career from the time he became the first Monash graduate student to gain a PhD in that newly formed university's German Department in 1965. His was also the first Doctorate in the Faculty of Arts. The full dedication and interest Michael devoted to his work led to an influential book on the switching and triggering process of multilingual speakers. This was to remain an important research focus in the years to come.

At a very early stage in his career Michael started to attract numerous graduate students, involving them in the theoretical and practical aspects of multilingualism in Australia in a globalised international environment. The foundation of an interdisciplinary centre for linguistic studies became a vital focal point in this field. The early recognition of the Australian model of multiculturalism as a modern paradigm of social integration also led to Michael's crucial role in the articulation of a national language policy framework. His basic research on the different national standard variations of pluricentric language areas had a very great impact on scholars all over the world. He soon rose to prominence in many institutions and academies here and overseas and was awarded numerous awards and accolades.

We all know that Michael will now tirelessly continue his work. All his friends, colleagues and students are certain that this celebration of retirement marks the beginning of an even more productive phase of his life for which we wish him further great success and personal satisfaction.

Leslie Bodi

A TRIBUTE FROM LINGUISTICS

Michael Clyne has made an exceptional contribution to the academic community. As scholar and researcher he has proved indefatigable—the bounds for Michael’s interest in and enthusiasm for language have yet to be set. He has been a tireless mentor, infecting students and colleagues alike with this energy. His ideas, often ground-breaking, continue to inspire scholars the world over. For all these attributes and achievements Michael has been admired and publicly honoured. But it is also his sense of humanity and fair play that distinguishes him. It’s these qualities that set him apart within the academy. In the new dialect we have learned to take to our hearts, Michael Clyne continues, in so many ways, to provide ‘the quality assurance benchmark’ to which we all should aspire!

Michael’s contribution as Professor of Linguistics here at Monash University has shaped a whole generation of students and helped to create the international reputation the department holds today. We are all thrilled to welcome Michael back as Emeritus Professor.

*Keith Allan, Heather Bowe, Julie Bradshaw, Kate Burridge,
Margaret Florey, Anna Margetts, Simon Musgrave*

HEATHER BOWE

I would like to take this opportunity to record my appreciation of Michael Clyne’s outstanding contribution to public awareness, academic scholarship and debate on language issues in Australia.

Michael is a true model of one who has linked his research to issues of importance to the Australian community. Through his interaction with community groups, he has developed a dialogue which informs his research, on the one hand, and makes his expertise available to the community, on the other. Michael has been doing this for the length of his career, long ever before there were such formal mechanisms as Collaborative or Linkage Grants.

We may recall that the Language Institute of Australia was one such initiative. A collaborative research initiative directed to the ARC before such applications were formalised. I became involved in the Language and Society

Centre at Monash, part of the collaborative network of research centres resulting from this initiative and am aware of the vast research activity generated by this initiative.

The Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies at Monash was another initiative with which Michael was closely associated which contributed significantly to exchange of ideas between academics and the community, and as a result was responsible for much input to public policy in the area of language.

In addition to his own outstanding scholarship, Michael has always made time to contribute generously to students and university colleagues, and to the affairs of the University.

Michael has, in fact, contributed much to any definition of what it is to be 'Australian'.

Thanks, Michael, for all you have done in your amazing professional life.

Best wishes,

Heather Bowe

SUSANNE DÖPKE

Michael came into my life as my PhD supervisor in 1983. In German we call PhD supervisors 'Doktorvater'—and he became very much an academic father to me. For the last 22 years Michael has opened many doors for me with his superb networking skills. His broad knowledge base and flexibility of mind made him an accommodating advisor at all times. He also showed much understanding for his student's competing demands, with work and a young family to juggle. Michael's care and understanding has helped me to persist with my interests and move forward on my path.

I am particularly grateful for Michael's interest in my work on childhood bilingualism. In 1990 Michael instigated seminars on raising children bilingually for families in the community and professionals working with such families. Over the years Michael made me an integral part of these seminars, which are going into their 16th year in 2005. While most of our seminars have been in Melbourne, we have also taken them to Adelaide and Brisbane, Shepparton and Geelong. Other states were visited by Michael or by myself

during community conferences on bilingualism. An offshoot of these seminars was the video *Growing up with English Plus* produced by Anamaria Beligan for the Language and Society Centre at Monash University in the mid-nineties. This video features a number of families raising their children with English plus another language at home. The other languages include German, Italian, Mandarin, Latvian, Serbian, Thai and Australian Sign Language and it reproduces some of the advice we are giving to parents during our seminars.

Unwittingly, Michael led me away from academia when he first invited me to join this then new community initiative. From the first parent seminar in 1990 to my eventual shift to speech pathology it took a full 10 years. Currently, Michael and the seminars on raising children bilingually are supporting me in my new career as a speech pathologist with a particular focus on bilingual children. Since 2004 I have been producing the *Australian Newsletter for Bilingual Families*—a venture which I had promised for a number of years. This newsletter comes out five times a year and provides ongoing support to bilingual families through articles, resource reviews, play ideas, as well as a question and answer forum. Many of the subscribers have previously attended our seminars. Michael is instrumental in promoting the newsletter to families and even subscribes to it himself. Thank you.

I wish Michael all the best for his retirement, which I am sure will be anything but quiet and laid-back. Michael, may your retirement allow you to concentrate on what you enjoy most! And may the seminars for bilingual families continue to be a part of that.

With heartfelt thanks to Michael and warmest wishes for his years to come,

Susanne Döpke

EDINA EISIKOVITS

There are many things about Michael Clyne which stand out but what is central for me is his role in generating a rich and vibrant academic community in the Department of Linguistics at Monash University and as part of that, his unflinching respect for and support of the individuals within that community, in particular, his support of women.

Those of us who were fortunate to work with him from the time he took up the Chair of Linguistics at Monash in 1988 will recall the rejuvenating breath of fresh air he brought to the task—the buzz of excitement at the new possibilities opening before us and his openness to new directions. He breathed life into a Department which, prior to his appointment, had teetered on closure. We introduced new courses and programmes, from the MA in Applied Linguistics to my own baby, Language, Reading and Writing. There was a sense of excitement and of common purpose. There was joint teaching and joint research. We pooled our resources and were enriched in the process.

And always there was openness and discussion, generating and sharing of ideas and respect for all contributors. Our regular Friday research seminars attracted a variety of stimulating speakers, from high profile overseas academics to local students embarking on their careers. All enjoyed the same welcome and in the discussions which followed, the same rigorous analysis of issues. Guided by Michael's high ethical and moral principles, ours became a department which engaged with the world beyond the university. It was truly an inspirational academic community.

For me personally, working with Michael during this period coincided with the time in my life when I was most committed to the challenges of maintaining an academic career while raising a young family, and in this Michael gave me extraordinary support. I recall one occasion while I was on maternity leave when he wanted me to attend an important departmental meeting with the Dean of the Faculty and I was unable to find appropriate childcare. Michael's response to my dilemma was telling. 'Bring the child,' he said. 'If we support the notion of workplace equality, we should be able to accommodate the presence of a child.' I'm not sure he was expecting the distracting intrusion my young son proved to be, but his commitment to the principle was unwavering as he brushed aside my embarrassed apologies.

It's not often one is privileged to work with a person whose integrity and pursuit of excellence reflect the finest ideals of the academic community.

Thank you, Michael, for what you have given to us all.

I wish you all the best for the future.

Edina Eisikovits

MARK NEWBROOK

I first met Michael Clyne in 1990 when I applied for a position at Monash University, although of course I had known his work for some time before that. It was a pleasure and a privilege to work with him during and after our time together in Linguistics at that institution. We did not always agree on matters of analysis or policy, but frequently we did, and whether we agreed or not I learned a very great deal from him on many fronts. I developed a deep respect for him as a scholar, an educator, a leader and a person. We also became very good friends. Some of my best memories of Michael relate to our co-editorship of the *Journal of Intercultural Studies* in the early 1990s, our involvement in the Monash Language Policy group (1994-95) and the trips to the Western District in 1997-98 in connection with the departmental research project on rural Australian English. I am sure that despite officially retiring Michael will continue to have an enormous positive influence in the world of linguistics, both in Melbourne and on a wider front. I wish him the very best in this and all other respects.

Mark Newbrook

ANNE PAUWELS

My first contact with Professor Michael Clyne was in the late 1970s when he gave a guest lecture on language contact in Australia at the University of Leuven, Belgium. I had become interested, if not intrigued by the topic of immigrant language contact during my final year of studies in Germanic Philology at the University of Antwerp: Michael's book *Forschungsbericht Sprachkontakt* was the prescribed text of a unit on language contact taught by visiting Professor Jürgen Eichhoff—then Professor of German at the University of Madison, Wisconsin. When news of Michael Clyne's lecture in Leuven reached the University Antwerp only hours before he was to present it, I was determined to overcome any logistic obstacles to make it to the lecture. Although Leuven is only 40 kms from Antwerp the journey involved 2 bus trips and 2 train changes and got me to Michael's lecture with 2 minutes to spare. In true Michael Clyne style, i.e. always making time for students and interested colleagues, Michael invited me to have dinner with him and Irene in the university *mensa* and to talk further about the Dutch language in

Australia. Here I also witnessed for the first time Michael's multilingual talents when he ordered his meal in almost perfect Dutch: *Ik had graag de truit* [I'll have the trout please] with only one minor slip up—*truit*-. Dutch uses *Forel* aligning it with German rather than relying on the French *truite* from which English *trout* is derived. This prompted a fascinating conversation about L2 learning strategies and language contact interrupted only by my need to get back to Antwerp before midnight by various means of public transport!

This contact was the start of a long and on going relationship with Michael, initially as his student doing a Master's and later PhD with him and then as his colleague, first in the same department and later at other universities. Words fail to describe adequately the indebtedness I have to Michael in relation to my professional career and training as a sociolinguist: not only has he been my main mentor during my studies but he has also been and continues to be a constantly inspiring colleague who is always ready to listen to my ideas and help shape those ideas into reasoned arguments. Equally important for me has been his willingness to freely share his ideas and thoughts about his own work with me and so many others. This generosity has always struck me as a quintessential characteristic of Michael's interactions with students and colleagues.

Michael, my very best and sincerest wishes upon entering your next stage in life for which the word *retirement* is surely a misnomer.

Anne Pauwels

LAURA WARNER

I have never known anyone with such boundless energy and passion for linguistics as Michael Clyne.

He generously welcomed me to Monash as a fledgling post-doctoral researcher back in 1995, and immediately involved me in various diverse activities within the department. Among other ventures over the years, he invited me to collaborate with him and others on the Australian English project. Our field trips with Michael for the project were intensive and productive, fuelled as they were by his unending quest for knowledge about the state of the English spoken in contemporary Victoria. One could not help but be enthused by him, both during fieldwork and in later written collaborations.

It has been an honour and a pleasure for me to work alongside someone with not only a superior knowledge but with a faultlessly professional attitude to academic life and its requirements. I have benefited enormously from Michael's approachability and academic generosity, from my association with him and his department, and from his eternal optimism, good humour and sometimes riotous sense of humour!

I wish him all the best for an exciting, fulfilling, yet peaceful retirement.

Laura Warner

JO WINTER

Social networks and discursive performativities: research, collegiality and life responsibilities. ('I have three things to tell you': Conversations with Michael)
Setting: 4th Floor, South wing, Menzies Building, Monash University, sometime (everyday) 1989-2000.

I hope Michael forgives me for adopting his voice in the subtitle 'I have three things to tell you'—Firstly, he shared many more than three ideas with me. Secondly, he certainly listened to me as often as he came to advise and thirdly, I hope he is not too surprised by my articulation of *social networks and discourse performativities* as emanating from his influence and scholarship.

1. Research

The study of language in society and the imperative to consider social contexts of linguistic practices is something I carry from my time working with Michael. While he supervised my PhD for a brief time, it is perhaps his initiative surrounding a departmental project on Australian English that had the greatest impact. He showed that expertise from differing approaches to linguistic analysis could benefit from discourses of sharing. The description of researching social networks and discursive performativities may not be Michael's preferred expression but certainly the kernels for my ideas rest inside his pursuit of understanding the sociolinguistics of language use.

2. Collegiality

In addition to research, Michael promoted and exemplified the power of collegiality in relation to student interaction, scholarship and departmental administration. Staff meetings benefited from his 'three things to tell you' and

his extensive social networks and contacts among university, community and industry bodies.

3. Life responsibilities

Michael's advocacy and representative role for ethnic communities demonstrates his commitment to community outreach and the relevance of applied sociolinguistics. His performativity provides an excellent model for all who have had the privilege to hear 'I have three things to tell you'.

Jo Winter

ANDREW MARKUS

I had the pleasure of working with Michael Clyne at Monash University's Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies for more than a decade. I have known few people to match Michael's level of dynamism. Nothing ever seemed too difficult, the answer to requests was always 'yes' or 'how can we do this?'. He seemed always to be urging his peers to be more active, to embark on new projects when they doubted their capacity to deal with their current tasks. While others obsessed with fine detail and exactitude Michael completed his contribution and was working on the next project, or the one after. His departure was our loss.

Andrew Markus

JOHN MCKAY

Michael Clyne: An Appreciation

It was my pleasure and privilege to work with Michael Clyne over a number of years at Monash as part of my involvement with what was then the Centre for Migrant Studies. Up to my first contact with Michael I had some passing interest in international migration issues (being a relatively recent migrant myself at that time), but my major interest was in flows of population within Australia. The first things that impressed me about Michael were his persistence and his enormous enthusiasm for his field. Quite soon I had been persuaded to broaden my field of study to include issues of migrant settlement and internal flows of the overseas born. One of the first results of this was the creation of an atlas of the overseas born population of Melbourne published in

1981. Michael, as always, was incredibly supportive of this endeavour, and provided a large number of helpful suggestions. This was my first real contact with Michael Clyne the scholar, and it was a very formative experience for me. His enormous knowledge, attention to detail and enthusiasm for knowledge have remained with me as a model ever since. That experience was enormously enhanced through my collaboration with Michael and Susan Manton on a government study of *The English Language Learning Needs of Adult Migrants in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne* published in 1983. From the very first day of the study when Michael and I drove around the Western suburbs and he pointed out to me a whole range of local features and issues, punctuated with lunch in a Croatian restaurant in St. Albans, it was a delight to work on this study. It opened up a whole range of new experiences to me, and introduced me to a wide range of new issues. The study received a good deal of publicity and positive comment, and that was very largely due to Michael's keen local knowledge, as well as an intense focus on the interaction between theory and action. Again, that experience has always stayed with me in my later career.

Partly against my better judgement, Michael persuaded me to serve several terms as Chair of the Migrant Studies Centre. But in fact this too proved to be an immensely enjoyable and informative experience. In those days the Centre, and in particular its weekly seminars, were incredibly important as a form for the discussion of a wide range of academic and policy issues. Much of the evolving policy on multiculturalism was developed, discussed, evaluated and fought over at these seminars, which were very much the highlight of my week. The chances for me and others to learn from Michael and the other participants were extremely important in my broader education in these matters. Michael was also very skilled at spotting new issues, novel viewpoints and areas of policy concern that could be highlighted in seminars. He also had an encyclopaedic knowledge of anyone working in this field in Australia and overseas, and was always there to suggest stimulating new speakers.

Later I had the privilege of working with Michael as the joint editors of the *Journal of Intercultural Studies*. At first this journal was published by a local enthusiast for the topic, but then became for a while an in-house journal. Thus we had to be concerned not just with the quality of the papers but also

with production schedules, subscriber lists and publicity. This was a mammoth and sometimes rather chaotic undertaking, but once again Michael's enthusiasm and enormous breadth of knowledge enabled us to overcome all our problems. In the end we produced what I think was a very influential and high quality journal, allowing the Centre to extend its role in the academic and policy debates of the time. Since then I have served in an editorial capacity for a number of scholarly journals, and the experience of working with Michael provided me with a very useful set of principles and tricks of the trade.

In all of these areas, Michael was invaluable for my own development, and I was privileged to be able to work with him in a number of areas that were I hope important in the development of this country. I wish him all the best in his retirement, but knowing Michael I expect that in retirement he will be just as enthusiastic and productive as he was in this working life!

John McKay

BRUCE WEARNE

Dear Michael,

First let me congratulate you on reaching this latest milestone in your long and helpful career. I write this in the confidence that it's only another stage in the outworking of your vocation and I hope and pray that the Almighty will continue to bless you (and Irene too) with renewed energy and enjoyment for what you still have to do.

I want to add to the irony of the occasion of your retirement from Melbourne University by recalling the terms in which I reviewed your book *Multilingual Australia* back in 1986 as a Lecturer in Applied Sociology at Chisholm IT. It was for the Melbourne Anglican Diocesan newspaper *See* (as it then was) Helen Hunter asked me to do this. It was at the time the late Archbishop, Dr David Penman was putting multiculturalism at the top of the Christian public agenda of this country.

In that regard what Penman was advocating in his ecclesiastical capacity, you had already been promoting by sharp and perceptive scholarly analysis, word and deed in that book, and by your other publications and contributions. It has been a contribution that respects language, and languages, but not only

that. It insists that a respect of the lingual dimension of national life must be an integral facet of our search for public justice, part of our Christian calling to 'to do justice and to love steadfastly, and to walk humbly with God' (Micah 6:8).

That is why that work of yours caused me then to think about 'the linguistic contours of our national life' and I join the many others who pay tribute to the indispensable guidance and encouragement that has been given to us through your work as we try to deepen our cultural awareness of the multilingual mosaic that is Australia.

I'm honoured to receive an email headed 'Dear Colleague' inviting me to participate. Whenever we have met—whether at Monash after 1990, or on other occasions, you have a habit of startling me by warmly greeting me as an 'old friend'. Who am I to argue? But I have had to think about that because, frankly, we have not had much occasion to work in the same department, on work on the same committees, or even attend the same church. When I consider this in the context of what has transpired over the last two decades I am indeed honoured to be considered your 'colleague' and 'old friend' and yes, indeed, we have been part of something at times that threatened to make us sad and angry. It strangely seemed to deny your contribution to the 3168 university by putting you 'out to graze' in that campus nearer the CBD whose postcode is 3052.

Your work and example however point us away from sadness and anger. I would like to think that in time your work will be honoured as the contribution of a founding faculty member of a new Australian University, that academy that this country so desperately needs, and which we hope it will some day discover, despite the cumulative traditional distractions of Government imposition. Such an academy is unmistakably present and anticipated in your esteemed scholarship. And it thereby gives us much hope. So thanks for keeping that hope alive by sticking to your vocation.

Love and best wishes to you and Irene,

Bruce Wearne

PHD STUDENTS—PAST AND PRESENT



LESLEY FARRELL

Some people say that PhD supervisors supervise as they were supervised. I hope that's true. When Michael accepted me as a student I had a background in literacy and education, almost no background in linguistics, and no idea where my research problem would take me. Michael taught me to read in linguistics but he also encouraged me to read in sociology, anthropology and any other field that might shed light on my research problem. He encouraged me to frame my problem broadly, to locate it within social, cultural and political contexts, and to see the ways my research might contribute to significant debates. At the same time he taught me to pay close attention to my data, to be rigorous in my analysis, and to look for the unexpected. Under his supervision I became utterly seduced by the conversation between theoretical work and the specifics of my analysis, the interplay of the macro and micro in shaping research understandings. As a supervisor Michael was able to provide both academic guidance and space to explore.

Michael's students are not clones, replicating his studies and reinforcing his findings, his influence has been far more profound than that. We are independent scholars operating in a range of fields, exploring the ways in which language is implicated in social change, and Michael is interested in all of them. One of the key memories I have of supervisory sessions with Michael is his keen interest in whatever I brought to the meeting—my reading, my thinking and my experience. The breadth of his interest is reflected in his rich and significant oeuvre. As the foundational editor of the *Journal of Intercultural Studies* he demonstrated his commitment to multidisciplinary research on issues that really matter in a global world, long before many of us noticed that globalisation was happening.

Michael has made a significant contribution to the policy and practice of language and education in Victoria and nationally, not only through his

research but also through his willingness to engage with policy debates and to deal frankly with political realities, and his capacity to collaborate with people with many different views and in many different fields to get the best outcome. For many people things are better than they would otherwise have been because of his energetic and persuasive policy interventions.

Above all else, Michael was an extraordinarily generous supervisor and remains an extraordinarily generous colleague. He is an academic who has made a difference.

Lesley Farrell

EVE FESL

I am an Indigenous Australian of the Gubbi Gubbi and Gangulu peoples. In 1956 I was Queensland Women's Discus Champion, had never lived away from home, was a primary school drop-out, but was chosen in Franz Stampfl's Australian Olympic Training Squad and required to train in Melbourne. With dreams of Olympic glory I left home to train under my new coach, whom I had never met.

Franz, when he wanted extra effort, used to yell at me in German of which I didn't understand a word, but got the general message anyway. I won the Victorian championship but missed out on the Australian title, so decided to train for the next Olympics in Europe. I had always been poor, but thought if I 'made it' would take a working holiday. What languages would I need on this working adventure? Yes, German was spoken/understood in many countries, so German it was.

I attended evening classes and when I'd exhausted them, my teacher suggested I do my HSC. Guess who took me for my orals? Yes, it was Michael Clyne!

Michael gave me an honours pass and encouraged me to continue with languages. I later managed to scrape through English and Social Studies and was received into Monash University. I undertook one year of German but found an interest in Linguistics and, of course, Indigenous languages. After struggling for years through my Masters, the question of doing a PhD arose.

I wasn't sure, but was informed Associate Professor Clyne would be my supervisor, so I took the plunge. I hadn't had contact with him since the

‘orals’ years before when he had encouraged me. When we again met he told me he would supervise on the condition that I reported to him every Monday on what I had done the previous week and what I planned for the coming week. It was absolutely great to have someone so interested and committed, so despite having to burn the candle at both ends on Sunday nights, I bit the bullet.

With Michael’s interest and supervision, in a year I had gained my PhD. Little did I know at the time that Michael as my supervisor and I were to make history. I became the first Indigenous Australian to gain a PhD from an Australian University. However, it was Michael’s encouragement and interest that got me there and for that I am so grateful. I guess that at the time, Michael didn’t know he was going to turn a failed Olympian into a successful academic.

Michael, thanks for your encouragement, personal and academic leadership and help to me over the years!

WUNYA! ALLES GUTE!

Eve Mumewa Doreen Fesl

CARLA FINOCCHIARO

A Tuesday afternoon, late February 2005, the phone rang. It was Michael. After inquiring about my husband’s health, who, Michael knew, had been very ill, he announced that he had good news. The reports from the examiners for my PhD had arrived and the PhD had been awarded to me.

This is Michael: kind, considered, direct. Even if the university administration side of the process had not been completed yet, he had decided to contact me immediately to give me the good news, which had been a long time coming.

This phone conversation could have signalled the end of our long supervisor/student working association. However, as retirement has not put an end to Michael’s academic work and the obligations he feels he owes to his students with an unfinished PhD, I am certain that the finalising of my thesis does not mean the end of our association.

In the 1980s, as a newly appointed lecturer to the University of Melbourne and a student of sociolinguistics I knew about Michael long before he ever heard of my name. When meeting him at conferences or seminars, I was greatly surprised by his availability, his genuine interest in what the other person was doing, his willingness to converse about any topic and give practical advice if asked for it. After all, my thinking was, he is the universally recognised authority in the field with an extremely impressive list of publications covering all aspects of linguistics; he is a legend and how could ‘a legend’ be so approachable?

When the time came to undertake my PhD, I chose the study at the university in which he was teaching and asked to have Professor Clyne as my supervisor. I was advised that he had so many students he probably could not add any more to his teaching load. I insisted. He agreed to have one more student. The long way to the completion of the PhD thesis under his supervision started.

During the eight years of work in progress, I often doubted that I would complete it. And so did Michael. However, he acknowledged to having had great doubts about my completing the PhD *only after* I had completed it. During the time of supervision, he encouraged, persuaded, pressed, praised, always made me feel that I could do it and therefore I must do it ... and persisted in doing so through the years, using the mode of persuasion more suitable to the given time.

Thanks, Michael. Due to your encouragement, I have now completed ‘IT’. I also know that if I need your opinion, advice or help you will still make it available to me whenever I will need it.

Carla Finocchiaro

MARGARET GEARON

Professor Michael Clyne: colleague, PhD supervisor, mentor and friend.

I first met Michael in the early to mid 1980s when the Education Department had decided that it would support the teaching of Community Languages in Primary Schools. There was, however, a slight glitch—the Department’s definition of community language excluded German. As a supporter of this language, and of bilingual education in particular, I seem to remember that

Michael wasn't very impressed by the way in which languages were to be classified and set about convincing the Department to change its approach. The result: German became part of the classification as a community language and languages' education in Primary Schools started to become a part of some schools' curriculum.

Several years passed during which I lost contact with Michael, but I was aware of his role in the promotion of bilingualism and bilingual education. When I joined Monash in 1992, I caught up with him as a member of the Languages' Committee which existed in the Arts Faculty and of which I became a member as the languages' teacher educator at Clayton. This period enabled me to work closely with Michael and to really appreciate his tenacity as an advocate for the teaching and learning of languages other than English and for his support of families attempting to raise children bilingually. I have always been amazed by his energy and application, and in particular his ability to grasp an issue and talk it through in strong convincing terms, frequently frustrating and defeating his adversaries with his wealth of knowledge and his ability to apply this quickly to a wide variety of situations.

As a colleague I found him extremely supportive and practical, particularly when I received a very large grant from the National Professional Development Projects and one of the conditions was to work collaboratively with the languages and the linguistics department to provide courses for teachers. He and Philip Thomson didn't seem to be at all phased by what was needed and this enabled me to see the project in more manageable terms.

As a PhD supervisor, I found him totally supportive and very understanding, always quick with just the right article, book or chapter to read to move my research along. Indeed, if Michael had not responded to my request for a letter of reference to Merrill Swain, again in his very practical and matter-of-fact way, I would probably still be waiting around the Education Faculty for a supervisor to come along, and struggling along by myself with mountains of data. Michael was so quick in picking up what was in these data which led to my research taking a totally new and exciting direction and I will always be thankful that he offered to supervise. I was really sorry that he could not attend my graduation as he was in Germany on study leave—he really deserved to be there to receive the thanks from my family and colleagues in the Education Faculty. Of course, as he knew, the reason I had to get this

thesis over and done with quickly was in order to become an instant supervisor myself. This was when I realised how much I had learned from him, implicitly, in helping budding research students with the long and often difficult journey from start to finish of a doctoral thesis.

Michael remains a stalwart of languages' education in Victoria in particular, and across Australia. He has made such a huge contribution to this field, especially in his advocacy to governments and his willingness to tackle even the most hostile public servant, in a pleasant but firm and convincing manner, about the importance of providing opportunities for the teaching and learning of languages other than English in order to help young people to develop a reasonable level of proficiency and a knowledge and awareness of other cultures, that there really is no way that those of us working in the fields of applied linguistics and languages education can even think of repaying him and thanking him sufficiently.

Margaret Gearon

JIM HLAVAC

I got to know Michael in 1987 while studying third year German at Monash University. He was one of the reasons I switched to Monash from Melbourne—Monash offered linguistics subjects and Michael was already one of the 'heavyweights' in his field.

Michael was one of the first researchers at an Australian university to explore the terrains of bi- and multilingualism, language contact and the sociology of language *in Australia*. Other linguists before him had usually adopted a prescriptive approach and tended to pay little attention to the multilingual society around them. He was *the* first researcher to ask questions, gather speech samples and statistics, bounce around ideas and develop theories about the way individuals spoke, the way speech communities functioned and what the outcomes were for transposed, 'migrant' languages in Australia. So for many of us, Michael 'pushed our buttons' and challenged us about a lot of things—language, education, culture and race. And Michael is no mere observer or debater of these things; he's also an activist and advocate, mobilising people and instigating projects, e.g. bilingual school education,

research centres, weekend seminars for parents bringing up their children with two or more languages. The list could go on.

I won't go on attempting to list the long number of his achievements—others elsewhere will have done this better. I'll go back to the end of my undergraduate years when I finished an honours thesis in the German Dept, knowing that there was some 'unfinished business'—another thesis. Seven years later, including long periods of study and work in Europe, I contacted Michael and started researching the language of Croatian speakers in Melbourne. Throughout my time as a post-graduate student I was so fortunate to have a supervisor who is an internationally renowned expert and a formidable authority in his field. Michael has also been a mentor who offered generous enthusiasm and critical support for my research. So, through the long slog of interviewing over 100 informants, transcribing data, bean-counting parts of speech, wrestling with head-hurting theories, being unable to write and then churning out a 700-page thesis, Michael maintained this constant presence of listener, prompt, trouble-shooter, motivator, critic and sage. I really consider myself one of the lucky ones to have known Michael well and to have been helped by him.

His goals, to name but a few, have been to promote and preserve linguistic ability and diversity; to encourage academic debate of social issues; to campaign against bigotry for a more enlightened society. These are some of the things that come to mind when I think of Michael Clyne.

Jim Hlavac

JIMMY HOEKS

The first time I saw Michael Clyne was at the AILA '84 conference in Brussels. Michael was a keynote speaker (I recall he had some trouble with the overhead projector) and I was a young MA graduate from Nijmegen University. I was in the process of applying for a one-year scholarship to study in Australia, and it occurred to me that I could do worse than enlisting the support of Professor Clyne.

At the gala reception that night, Michael was surrounded by a circle of friends and colleagues. As I was practising the 10-second pitch I was hoping to deliver if I managed to get close to him, I got talking to—as chance would

have it—an acquaintance of Michael's. I told him of my predicament. He dragged me through the crowd and planted me right in front of Michael with the words 'Michael, this guy wants to study Dutch migrants in Australia'. Michael turned to me with a beaming smile and exulted 'Oh, but you'll have to come to Monash!' All the good things that have happened in my life since then can be traced back to that moment.

With Michael's backing, the scholarship was in the bag. The day I arrived at Monash, Michael took me to the faculty office to enrol me for a one-year master's degree. While he was at it, he enrolled me for a PhD, 'in case you want to stay another year'.

Michael was a constant support throughout my time at Monash. Despite his hectic schedule, he was always available for an official consultation or a casual chat. Better still, he managed to give me the impression that I was the one doing *him* a favour by discussing my progress. As I went through the ups and downs that thesis research inevitably brings, Michael never wavered. He was unfailingly optimistic about my progress and confident in my ultimate success. That, in combination with his profound understanding of my subject area, made him the best supervisor I could have asked for.

Jimmy Hoeks

JO HUGHSON

I feel extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to be supervised by Michael. As a mentor he has been endlessly inspiring, challenging and entertaining. He is always brimming with an infectious enthusiasm and a palpable passion for all things sociolinguistic and multilingual. His awesome intellect and memory may be intimidating but he is never anything but supportive; Michael supervises with the patience, compassion and encouragement of a master of his craft, guiding you to discover for yourself what he has known all along. Lastly, his sense of humour is always refreshing and a good reminder not to take things too seriously.

Working under him as a research assistant I have found him to be gracious, generous and humble. I feel I have been very spoilt because the experience so far has been an absolute pleasure.

Jo Hughson

DAPHNE HUANG

My first contact with Michael was through email about the possibility of me being his student for my doctoral dissertation. At the time, I wasn't feeling very confident about the topic I was planning to pursue (*Bilingualism on the Internet*, and eventually *Language use and code-switching in emails*). However, Michael seemed very interested, which gave me some confidence about the topic. After the initial contact via email, I 'Google-searched' him to find out information about him. It was only then that I realized this Professor Michael Clyne is *the* Professor Clyne who had published so many books and articles, which I had been reading during my Masters programs. I was very happy to have found out that my soon-to-be supervisor was one of the top people in the field of Bilingualism, among many other areas.

It was not until months later that I met Michael in person, when I moved to Melbourne. During the three years that we worked together (as Michael nicely put it), I have learned a great deal of things from him, both academically and non-academically. Michael has not only taught me about the whole thesis research and thesis writing processes, but also introduced to me the opportunity of doing research collaboratively with colleagues at RUMACCC. In addition, it was his encouragement which eventually led me to start tutoring and giving presentations at the conferences. I did my first presentation at the student conference of the Department at the University of Melbourne in 2001. I was not certain whether I was ready to present my thesis then. However, Michael was convinced that I could talk about my data and my initial analysis. He even listened to my presentation during one of the supervisory meetings so that I could get the chance to practise. Michael's devotion to his students is impressive!

However, it was Michael's attitude and quest towards knowledge which made a profound impact on me. It had always been my assumption that a professor or an academic must know everything. I remember the first time I asked Michael about the language situation in Taiwan, and the answer that I got was: 'I don't know! Can you find it out?' At the time, I was quite confused and was not sure how to react, because I was expecting Michael to give me a precise answer which I could simply take home and memorize. During the course of our supervisory meetings, this type of event happened quite a few

times. This has influenced me a great deal in my attitude towards research as well as teaching. Now that I am teaching myself, I often use this famous example when students ask me questions for which I do not have an answer.

Although I do not have the opportunity to keep working with Michael, I am so grateful to have had him as my supervisor and to have shared interests with him. It was a privilege to have been supervised by him and to have worked with him.

Daphne Huang

MARIE-THÉRÈSE JENSEN

One of my first memories of Michael Clyne was a smorgasbord dinner at the home of his colleague Professor Hammarström. He stood beside me in the queue for rollmops and black rye bread, observed my pregnant state and asked in his matter of fact way, à propos of nothing: ‘Are you going to raise this child bilingually?’

Well, not really, I explained. The language for expressing my emotions was English. This was in spite of the fact that my French-speaking mother had passed on her love of that language to us, her children. French was an important language for me, but it was very much my second language. It was good to be asked the question and to have to think about it.

(When Daniel was seven we spent some months in the Plateau Beaubourg, on the French-speaking side of Montréal, Canada. He learned some vocab, learned some songs. At high school in Melbourne he started French with Mrs Stieglitz and learned some grammar. He’s now 16 and still doing French. It seems a small achievement, somehow).

Michael’s passion for the maintenance of home languages and for Australians’ learning of additional languages has been significant for many, and certainly for me. His own studies and the studies of his students and colleagues have been true landmarks in the cultural history of this country. He has rightly received honours for his work, and I was proud to be in the audience at Monash University when he was presented with an award from the Austrian government for his work on German as a pluricentric language. Having lived in Bavaria and Franconia for more than three years, I had

learned to appreciate differences of accent and idiom between speakers of German from north and south, west and east.

I am personally grateful to Michael for his generosity in supervising my PhD thesis in its last year or two. He was leaving Monash for the University of Melbourne and might have said ‘Auf wiedersehen’. Instead, he encouraged me to send him my chapters and talk about them for as long as it took to finish writing. His professional commitment was inspiring, and the thesis got written. For this I say Thank you, Michael. *Vielen herzlichen Dank. Merci beaucoup.*

Marie-Thérèse Jensen

FRED KLARBERG

The phrase ‘a gentleman and a scholar’ has been used to describe so many people that it has become a cliché. It seems to imply that there are people who have a quality of character which is praiseworthy. There are also those who, whether because of their intelligence or their commitment to study, or both, have achieved a high academic standing. Some may be distinguished for belonging to these two groups. They belong to an enviable elite.

Michael (the name is derived from the Hebrew /mixael/ ‘who may be compared to the Almighty?’!) has both the characteristics of a true gentleman in his relationship with others, and of a scholar in his countless contributions to academia. I am sure that other tributes will outline his manifold achievements, describing how he opened up new areas of research, and guided research students, both in Australia and overseas.

However there is another facet to Michael that should be recorded. The ‘scholar’, whom all students and colleagues recognize, is integrated with the ‘gentleman’ in him. Michael can listen to an academic presentation and ask important questions which the presenter should have considered. In that of course Michael is not alone. But there are not many who can manage to ask these questions (which are necessary for scholarship to be meaningful) in a manner which has no trace of confrontation. This is peculiarly Michael.

I came to Michael as a mature age student. He taught me what research is, how to present an argument, and how to read research reports. His seminars taught me to listen critically, and to enjoy the give and take of intellectual argument. He encouraged me to publish, thereby giving me a bug

which has never left me. Even when I presented an argument which he knew was questionable, he would probe without the slightest trace of confrontation, for indeed he is a scholar who is a gentleman.

Michael, I know that for you retirement does not mean leaving research behind you. Your career will no doubt continue and you will encourage others to follow you. I wish you many more years of fruitful endeavours.

Fred Klarberg

BRIGITTE LAMBERT

My first contact with Michael Clyne was incognito, via a cassette recording of a lecture for first-year linguistics students at Monash University, in 1996. At that time, the 'who's who' of sociolinguistics and bilingualism studies was a complete mystery to me. The realization that the speaker on the cassette was a person of considerable academic stature and renown came gradually, although the numerous Clyne publications in the library should have given me a clue. In subsequent lectures and tutorials I was only aware that this was a teacher, who shared his knowledge in calm and measured tones, understood 'stupid' questions, always provided his students with opportunities to extend themselves and who made it clear that he also learned from them. Notably, he endeared himself to timid first-time presenters of discussion papers by pointing out his own problem with handling projectors.

In our current relationship, as supervisor and research student at the University of Melbourne, this teaching style has remained and we still joke about our mechanical mishaps. What has changed, however, is my appreciation of Michael Clyne, in his professional capacity and in his role as a personal mentor. I am privileged to have benefited from his vast knowledge; I am fortunate to know him as a friend.

Michael, herzlichen Dank, und viel Vergnügen noch, im Ruhestand.

Brigitte Lambert

DEBORAH NEIL

'The abstract is due today? Here, sit down and we'll write it now...'

Michael has the rare capacity to take the mystique out of writing abstracts, papers, even PhDs.

The things I remember about MC from my years as his research assistant and student are the following:

- the amazing fusion of his energy, intellect and warmth;
- his insight and understanding of people within their linguistic and cultural contexts;
- his capacity to gather people together and get things done.

Thank you, Michael, for your inspirational work over many years.

Deborah Neil

HOWARD NICHOLAS

When I first met Michael, it was as an undergraduate student in a Department that gave space for linguistics next to literature. He ended up suffering dreadfully by having to supervise my subsequent academic attempts and having to endure my creative engagement with German when I decided that nothing on earth could help me to make sense of literature (much to the relief of the majority of the Department, I think).

I think I met Michael first on paper (not the textbook kind) as he featured heavily in the German Club newsletters in relation to his ability to ‘decline’ verbs. But he soon transcended the scant ability of paper to capture his contributions to student and academic life at Monash.

He featured heavily in our tutorials for his ability to analyse aspects of Hitler’s speeches while we wondered whether the needle on the record (it was that long ago) would fall off the record before the record player fell off the pile of books and journals on which it was precariously balanced. He linked us closely to the community while demonstrating the fragility of community languages by balancing a spherical (lime green) radio on the (sloping) window ledge to listen to the newly created 3ZZZ. He introduced us to the diversity of Melbourne’s multilingualism with applied research into triggered code-switching in different delicatessens throughout Melbourne (interspersed with applied bilingualism when forced to style shift for legal purposes with monolingual law enforcers who had a different relationship to dominant cultural practices than that utilised by Michael). He dragged us kicking and

screaming into schools and community activities and even inspired some of us to become teachers.

As a colleague the same irreverent ability to unpack issues, to not accept a status quo just because it is, to make a claim that ended up being right (or at the very least genuinely worth engaging with) even if there wasn't a whiff of 'methodology' in how the data was obtained, the ability to link ideas and people of different generations and backgrounds continues to inspire.

The only thing of which I stand in more awe than his ability to make something coherent and challenging out of a mess of biro-created cats on the back of an old class assignment is the fact that the man who regularly stuck paper clips into the earth sockets of powerpoints 'to make the plug work' is now able to communicate by email and thereby keep his informal coalitions of multilingual democratic activists alive and well and working despite the other multiple causes for despair (and occasionally make use of a PowerPoint of a different kind).

Howard Nicholas

ULDIS OZOLINS

The semiotics of supervision

The basic principles of supervision are not difficult to enumerate and can be read in any postgraduate handbook—expertise in the area of the thesis, having time for regular meetings, giving timely feedback on work submitted by the candidate, making suggestions for improving the work, suggesting relevant examiners.

And then there is something extra. As each candidate comes with their own often incongruous mix of personality, working style, other commitments, stops and starts, crises and boring periods, anxiety and forgetfulness, the supervisor has to be able to ride these, encouraging where necessary, reining in where needed, treating each phase in its own terms, always listening, responding to a person rather than just to a thesis-in-the-making.

Before I started my PhD with Michael as supervisor, I had heard an anecdote from a colleague in another discipline who had completed their PhD and told me about her relation with her supervisor—the supervisor always took the lead from the candidate in terms of mood, being available when

needed, but not pushing it. On one occasion, when the candidate was going through a particularly slow period of writing and really had nothing to say to the supervisor because it was all confused in her head, she happened to come into the nearby pub/café to sit and think. A few minutes later the supervisor also happened to come in, took another table across the way with the merest glance of recognition (for he took in her mood instantly) and there they sat for the next hour or so, each in their own thoughts, feeling perfectly comfortable, and then each quietly left.

I thought it was a good story but improbable in my case. I am an extrovert and found Michael to be the same—he is always interested, encouraging, always with another piece of useful information or contact or idea or sly observation. If I had not seen him for a while (I was doing my thesis part-time so it stretched), Michael would call up and gently remind me that if he were needed, he would be available. And then there came a time when I was buried in myself, turgidly wallowing around some middle chapter, having nothing to say to Michael for three or four months, and one day I went into the little Monash caf that has long since been transmogrified and uglified, and sat, and in came Michael and he took another table across the way with the merest glance of recognition (for he took in my mood instantly) and there we sat...

Uldis Ozolins

DORIS SCHÜPBACH

In 2000 I was finishing my master's degree and playing with the idea of embarking on a PhD. The decision was made easier when I heard that Michael Clyne was coming to Melbourne University. I decided to approach him with my rather vague research proposal and to ask him if he would consider supervising my PhD. In awe of the most eminent scholar in the field of language contact in Australia and beyond, I sent him a very formal email ('Dear Professor Clyne ...') outlining what I had done so far, what my plans were and asking if we could meet to discuss this.

His immediate reply to my long-winded email simply read: 'Dear Doris, what about Friday at 11. Congratulations on your [master's] thesis. Michael'. This email illustrates very aptly Michael's approachability and how he always makes time for students and colleagues, his intense interest in the work of

others, be it student or eminent colleague, and how he is always a step ahead—of course he already knew about my MA thesis, he had read it.

Since then Michael has not only been the most encouraging and supportive supervisor I could have wished for but also a mentor in any other possible way. Working with him and for him as a tutor and as a research assistant has been a very important and valued part of my ‘research apprenticeship’. What I take with me in particular and what Michael has demonstrated by example is that passion, compassion and respect are as much part of research as detachment, conclusions and publications.

Approaching the very final stages of my PhD candidature, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with Michael and I am even more pleased that our collaboration will continue beyond his ‘retirement’.

Doris Schüpbach

INGRID SEEBUS

My first taste of linguistics of any kind was a lecture given by Michael Clyne at Monash University during the second year of my undergraduate degree. Although I was a literature student, Michael’s lecture sparked my interest in the varied patterns of language maintenance by different language communities in Australia. I was also intrigued by Michael’s analysis of language contact data and the notion that meaningful patterns could be identified in bilingual speech.

This brief introduction to sociolinguistics was to have an enduring impact. It drew me back to university, first to learn more about this field as part of an MA and then to conduct my own research for a PhD. The breadth and depth of Michael’s research over the years, in particular in language maintenance, code-switching/transversion and bilingualism of the elderly, have inspired my research on elderly Dutch bilinguals.

Michael’s wealth of knowledge, imposing body of research and role in kindling my initial interest in the field make it an honour and a privilege to have him as a supervisor. His constant enthusiasm, generosity in sharing knowledge and time, unending patience, guidance and support continue to make this journey of sociolinguistic discovery such an exciting one.

Ingrid Seebus

YVETTE SLAUGHTER

Michael Clyne has an incredible ability to make everybody feel extraordinary. He has cajoled me through my PhD with ambling stories, long lunches, phone calls, emails, meetings, and a wonderful sense of humour. He is brilliant, works fearsome hours and publishes more in a year than I could hope to in a lifetime. It's an absolute pleasure to be supervised by Michael and I hope to be working with Michael for many years yet.

Yvette Slaughter

ANDREA TRUCKENBRODT

I have a very distinct memory of my first meeting with Michael. In many ways, this first meeting was to set the pattern for our subsequent meetings over the next 20 years.

I had just started teaching German and English in a country school and was loving every minute of it but it was very clear to me that school teaching was never going to be enough on its own for me. I felt I hadn't learnt enough myself to stop studying, so on my way home one Friday afternoon around 5.00pm I stopped off at Monash University looking for more information about further study and a new direction. My undergraduate studies at the University of Melbourne had focussed on literary studies, something I enjoyed but felt was somehow self-indulgent and limited. I wanted to learn more about how languages worked and how people learnt languages and how I could become a better teacher of language.

As I walked down the dark corridor of the German Department at Monash, one door was open and I knocked and explained who I was and why I was there. I left an hour later with two of Michael's linguistics books that I could work through until the following year when I would begin my postgraduate studies and with a new friend. I had been introduced to the world of linguistics, and I'd met a kindred spirit—someone who was passionate about learning, language and teaching.

This little anecdote typifies our relationship. Michael has always made himself available to me and to others. I am always inspired by his enthusiasm, his expansive knowledge and 'you can do it' attitude. We have met in many

different places in Australia and overseas and I am always touched by Michael's warmth, friendliness and interest in my minor affairs. I am privileged to have been his student and colleague.

Andrea Truckenbrodt

ROULA TSOKALIDOU

Thank you Michael!

When I first announced my plans to go to the other side of the world for post-graduate studies, *hoping* to get a scholarship and, possibly, some work for a little extra pocket money, people thought I was crazy to think that all this would happen to me. Besides, I was one of the few Greeks with no family or any relatives in Australia. Nevertheless, I had a very good feeling about my decision and I set out for my journey to the unknown in June 1990, leaving behind me the glorious Greek summer to go to what initially hit me as a very grey and sad Australian winter.

However, when you are in your early 20's everything's possible and, indeed, everything was made possible for me at what turned out to be the very warm and hospitable Department of Linguistics at Monash University. Professor Michael Clyne was head of the Department at the time and practically the first person I met there. The first thing that impressed me about Michael was his happy expression and generosity in finding time to welcome me, just a newly arrived student from Greece! On our first meeting, he complimented me on my English and patiently explained to me the process I had to follow in order to enrol, working my way round the University bureaucracy.

Soon after the first couple of weeks of adjusting to the new reality, I was told that Prof. Clyne was putting together a research team that would carry out research into the teaching of Greek, as well as other languages, at primary schools in Melbourne. The project was part of the research activities of the Language and Society Centre, of the NLLIA. Despite the fact that my experience with the Australian reality was non-existent, Michael trusted me and asked me to join his research team, thus offering me my first research assignment and paid research work ever! This immediately made me feel that, although I was just a graduate student, I was given the opportunity to become a responsible member of the academic community at Monash. The way in

which Michael guided our team of young researchers was such that I felt both secure and protected, as well as free to experiment and develop my own research initiatives. To this date, that experience from collaborating with Michael and the rest of the team remains a great source of knowledge, which assists me in my own dealings with student researchers.

As I mentioned earlier, I arrived in Australia full of enthusiasm and positive energy but, as a matter of fact, I had little idea about what the content of my PhD research would be like. Upon returning to Greece and as I tried to start my academic career, I realized how thankful I should be to Michael who was the first to ‘disappoint’ me by advising me to capitalize on my own Greek background and carry out research involving the Greek community in Melbourne. At the time, and because of my enthusiasm to learn new things, I was contemplating the possibility of embarking on a study of Australian Aboriginal languages! Imagine the prospects of finding an academic position back in Greece as an expert on Australian Aboriginal Languages! Michael thought that it would be much more meaningful for me to study the Greek-speaking community of Melbourne, which, initially, made me feel ‘trapped’ in my ethnicity, as I then wanted to be seen as Roula, and not ‘Roula the Greek’. Of course I soon realized the point and significance of Michael’s opinion, both academically and personally, as the wealth of knowledge that I obtained from my research into the Greek-Australian community surpassed all of my expectations. Moreover, the relations that I built during my Greek-Australian research years are still a great source of personal happiness and fulfillment for me!

My Monash student years are full of very fond memories and, to date, those times remain the most creative and exciting academic period of my life. When Michael asked me ‘to not call him *Prof. Clyne* but just *Michael*’, he actually encouraged me to aspire and work harder to reach a higher academic level closer to his own! His overall friendly and modest behaviour towards me, a young overseas student, as well as his passion for bilingualism and the importance of community languages contributed more than anything in the formation of my own academic and personal identity. I still talk to my students about what I learned from Michael and, at the same time, try to convey to them Michael’s belief, which he successfully conveyed to me, that

language contact issues and bilingualism are not just theory but an exciting way of life!

Another important lesson from Michael has been his ability to organize his work in such a manner that he always found time for all his very many obligations. Although I have been away from Australia for over eight years and despite his limited time, Michael still sends me material that I might be interested in and this makes me feel that I have never ceased to be a member of Michael's research team! Having maintained contact with Michael all these years has been a constant source of positive energy for me, as well as a much needed sense of security, knowing that Michael is there if I need his wise opinion regarding any of our common academic interests. Therefore, when I came up with an idea of a children's book on bilingualism, Michael was one of the first to know about it and his positive comments strengthened me a great deal. More recently, when I took the initiative to put together a collective volume on 'Issues of identity in the Greek Diaspora', Michael was again one of the first to contribute with an article on Greek in Australia, which I was more than happy to translate into Greek.

Michael, I can never thank you enough for all that you have taught me as a worldwide recognized linguist, friendly and passionate teacher and supportive colleague. Your Greek, ex graduate student and humble colleague is still aspiring to, partly, reach your wealth of knowledge, always inspired by your unique passion for your ideas!

Now, having recently lost both my parents, I also want to thank you for the friendliness with which you approached them when they came to Australia for my graduation. They were so impressed by you that they often, till recently, asked me about the well being of 'my smiling and friendly professor in Australia'! I wish you, Michael, all the best for ever!

Roula Tsokalidou

LIN ZHENG

Dear Michael,

It is time to celebrate your distinguished career in linguistics and languages. It gives me great joy to wish you well, from the vantage point of my own career, which has been blessed by your earlier supervision and subsequent guidance.

As such, it is not only I who needs to thank you, Rong (*my husband*) and Shane (*my son*) have always held you in high esteem given your steady care which has lifted us all—not just academically but spiritually as well.

Without your generous help, it would have been impossible for me to be offered a Chinese lectureship at an Australian university or to obtain a PhD degree in Linguistics. Supervision can be a chore, I know. But supervisory sessions with you always stimulated my mind, calmed my nerves and drove me to write more. I see myself trying to do the same with the next generation of students, albeit without the *élan* you brought to our sessions. When some Australian friends express amazement to see what I have achieved, I understand how much hard work and leadership you offered.

Not only have you been my PhD supervisor, but you have also been a great teacher in my life. When I was your PhD student, our 30-minute appointment every fortnight was one of my chief enjoyments. It was you who first introduced me to the study of code-switching amongst bilingual speakers. You provided me with clear guidance, detailed comments on each section (you must have developed a sore hand writing them all!), strong support and encouragement, all done with patience and good cheer. I have learnt from you not only the knowledge in linguistics, but also the skills in gaining the strength to overcome difficulties, cooperating with colleagues and guiding the next generation of scholars into our field.

Supervising students from other cultures must be particularly challenging. For me, you have not only launched me into my own career but you have enabled me to appreciate nuances of this local culture that would have otherwise escaped me. My qualities both as an Australian and a scholar have derived from your example.

Each year, our family really enjoys your beautiful Chinese New Year's card, in which your well-crafted words consistently impress us. Our hearts are touched by your kindness, intelligence and also wonderful organization and strong sense of self-discipline, which I still need to improve upon. In the family card box, we have about 15 postcards from you—from all over the world. Last Christmas, we went back to China. Before leaving Australia, Rong said that we should have learnt from Michael to send him a postcard from China. However, it was posted by my cousin on the day when we left China.

Michael, you are such a unique person who has changed the trails of our life. You will remain dear to us in our hearts for as long as we live, here or elsewhere.

With very best wishes & lots of love,

Lin Zheng

COLLEAGUES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE



THE SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Michael Clyne is recognised internationally as a leading scholar in the fields of sociolinguistics and bilingualism, multilingualism and language contact. We were delighted and honoured when Michael joined the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics as Professorial Fellow in 2001. Since then, he has made an outstanding contribution to the Department, and to the School of Languages, as a teacher, supervisor, and researcher. The Department and School will always be indebted to Michael for his intellectual generosity, vision, and collegiality, and for his tireless promotion of his beloved discipline.

Michael was the first researcher to study immigrant languages in Australia, focusing in particular on their structural changes, distribution and maintenance in the Australian community. His pioneering research in this area continues to have a profound influence on the discipline, both in Australia and internationally. In 2001 he established the Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural Communication in the School of Languages. He will continue to play a significant role in contributing to the intellectual focus of RUMACCC, and the field of sociolinguistics in Australia and abroad.

Michael was also the first scholar to introduce courses in bilingualism and language contact into the Australian university curriculum. Having done this over many years at Monash, upon joining us in the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics and the School of Languages, Michael immediately made an impact on teaching and research in these areas in the Department and School. For example he has supervised over 14 PhD/MA research students, has participated in five ARC-funded research projects in the Department and School of Languages, and has attracted a significant

number of international colleagues to the School through the activities of RUMACCC. He continues to be an active supervisor, inspirational researcher and revered colleague.

Michael's research on multilingualism in Australia has already had a considerable impact on language policy issues in this country. Largely through his efforts, multilingualism is recognized as a fundamental component of Australian identity. Obvious signs of this include the widespread teaching of languages in primary and secondary education, the inclusion of a question on language use in the Australian census, and the use of languages other than English in the media. Over the last 40 years, he has contributed a vast number of influential field-shaping publications, and he has trained a number of researchers who now contribute to linguistics research in Australia. The School of Languages and Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics is a much better place since Michael joined us in 2001.

Gillan Wigglesworth and Janet Fletcher

A TRIBUTE FROM THE RESEARCH UNIT FOR MULTILINGUAL AND CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION EXECUTIVE

After his undergraduate studies at the University of Melbourne, Michael Clyne's academic career took him around the world, and won him international acclaim. When he returned to the University of Melbourne in 2001 as Professorial Fellow in Linguistics, his academic career came full circle. His return resulted not only in the establishment of the Research Unit for Multilingual and Cross-Cultural Communication, no mean feat in itself, but it also was the catalyst for giving sociolinguistic research at the University a new focus by creating research partnerships across the Departments of the School of Languages.

RUMACCC has been able to put into practice one of the *raison d'être* of the School of Languages in providing a key nexus for reflection and research in all areas of linguistics. In addition to conducting research in a variety of fields, such as multilingualism, bilingual education, second language acquisition, intercultural communication, and language policy, the ARC Discovery Project grant for research on forms of address in some European languages, housed in RUMACCC, was the first cross-Departmental research

project within the School of Languages. Thanks to Michael Clyne and RUMACCC, productive cross-cultural dialogue has been established on a small scale between Departments within the University, as well as on a large scale, for example, between migrant groups Australia-wide.

As a group, we are continuing to work together and with RUMACCC staff and visiting scholars, and we are already planning a continuation of the current ARC-funded research on address. We are extremely lucky to have been able to work with and learn from Michael over the last four years. It is a particular honour to work with someone who is such an excellent researcher in many fields, and it is also a real pleasure to work with such a genuine, warm, and unpretentious person who has the ability to put everyone at ease. We all know that retirement will not be able to slow Michael down. He will keep on doing what he has done so successfully during his professional life, and we expect that he will continue to astonish us with his infinite capacity for work and with his endless and contagious enthusiasm for his research.

*John Hajek (Italian), Leo Kretzenbacher (German),
Catrin Norrby (Swedish), Jane Warren (French)
Members of RUMACCC executive*

MEREDITH BARTLETT AND SANDRA LEANE

As qualified teachers of the deaf for two decades, but working as interpreters for half of that time, it occurred to us some years ago that updating our qualifications with some academic study might be beneficial. What we didn't realise was that our original qualifications did not really match the entrance criteria for Masters studies in any institution. However, we and all the aforesaid institutions did not reckon on Michael Clyne's persistence and his stubborn refusal to allow us to be put off by the bureaucratic barriers to further study after so many years. Let it be said that we are in awe of Michael's ability to continue a process despite ABSOLUTE refusals by institutions to even consider...etc etc.

Having completed a Masters degree at Monash, Michael's encouragement for Meredith to move on to a PhD was overwhelming and convincing. At times Michael has more belief in his students than they do themselves! Certainly he has shown such enormous faith in our ability to

achieve and complete work outcomes that we have started to believe it ourselves. It is this faith that is the basis for his encouragement and which keeps us motivated to keep researching.

Auslan (Australian Sign Language) is significantly understudied and misunderstood in Australia, and only recently have the linguistics of Auslan begun to be researched and published. Therefore to find Michael challenging us with insightful questions about the features and use of Auslan was a surprise and a real pleasure! Michael is a renowned linguist and scholar of spoken languages, and his skill in transferring this knowledge to the study of Auslan (without necessarily even learning to sign) was an outstanding feat to us, but perhaps no surprise to those who know him well. He has amazed us with his instinctive understanding and respect for a visual language and the users of that language. Michael continues to champion the cause of NESB deaf children whose parents cannot use English in the home. His belief in the ability of parents to use their home language alongside Auslan with their children is encouraging for all these families.

Our debt to Michael is huge and our respect and affection for him grows with every discussion.

Meredith Bartlett and Sandra Leane

SUE FERNANDEZ

I first met Michael in the late 1970s when I was an undergraduate in the Department of German at Monash University, and began working part time as his Research Assistant soon thereafter. In the pre-computer era, Michael would scribble his texts on the back of waste photocopy paper, and I gradually learned to decipher the symbols, abbreviations and arrows with which he organises his seemingly endless stream of ideas. As a mere undergraduate, I also learned very quickly that asking a question and expecting a direct and accessible answer was complete folly: quantities of paper and copious note taking became essential requirements at any meeting, so that I could subsequently scour my notes to locate what resembled a thread from amongst the expansive response!

Michael's formidable intellect, coupled with a prodigious capacity for work, have remained undiminished throughout the 30 or so years in which I

have known him. Over these years he has been integral to the lives and careers of a great number of people, including myself. Much of my working life has involved projects instigated directly or indirectly by, through or with Michael. I have benefited enormously from his experience, insights and inspirations, and the intellectual honesty and rigour with which he approaches his work. He invests enormous confidence in those working closely with him and is not averse to throwing a challenge in one's direction, despite protestations that it may just be beyond one's reach! Having been instrumental in establishing the Bayswater South Primary School bilingual program, he contacted me one day and asked me whether I would like to write a book about the program. When I responded that I'd never written more than a 3000 word undergraduate essay, he insisted that I could do it, and never wavered in his patience, support and encouragement. Michael is a wonderful human being who is always generous in expressing praise for and appreciation of the efforts of those who work closely with him; however, his humility and self-deprecation preclude him from accepting the same. I am pleased to be able to contribute to recognising his contributions as a scholar, and, on a personal level, as a mentor and friend.

Sue Fernandez

FELICITY GREY

Michael has been an inspiring teacher and mentor and has always given generously of his time (I wonder if he ever sleeps!). He has adamantly maintained a sense of equality, treating me as a respected colleague while I worked as an admin-cum-research assistant. This humility and generosity brings out the best in those around him. I also consider him a friend, and we have shared many a laugh and lively conversations about Beethoven, John Howard or the difficulty of fitting everything in to a busy schedule. I want to say thank you for all that we have shared and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Felicity Grey

SANDRA KIPP

I first met Michael in 1968, in my first year of German at Monash University, and my working association with him began a year later, when he offered me

the job of transcribing his interviews with pre-war German-speaking migrants. Thus began for me a lifetime of interest in the dynamics of language contact (is there a book title in that?)

Perhaps the highlight of my undergraduate years was the fieldtrip program that Michael had introduced for students of linguistics within the German Department. We would pile into some University vehicle or another, complete with huge reel-to-reel tape recorders and a good supply of tapes, and drive off to the wheat farms of the Wimmera, or the rolling hills of the Western District, looking for German speakers. First the visit to 'Pastor' in his study—with us usually sitting in a row on the sofa—then on to farmhouses looking for elderly and unsuspecting farmers and their wives who 'ought to be able to speak some German yet'. Which they usually did. Despite the fact that the arrival of a little posse of total strangers armed with a huge tape recorder and an almost equally huge microphone must have been alarming, to say the least. I can still see the succession of sitting rooms into which we were ushered so politely, the cups of tea that we were offered and the interviews themselves, sometimes punctuated by a wonderful array of sound effects. I have been a little addicted ever since to this combination of historical context with linguistic research, and with the emphasis on 'real' people and oral history—both my Masters thesis and my PhD dissertation were based on 'old German settlements'. This is an interest, and a great source of pleasure, that I owe entirely to Michael. A somewhat less tangible debt from that time is the example of the integral importance of fieldwork to sociolinguistics, demonstrated by Michael's 'can-do' approach and 'well, why don't we go and have a look?' attitude.

Michael supervised me through my Masters thesis and in 1992 invited me to work with him on the language data from the 1991 Census. This was the first of three National Censuses on which Michael and I have worked, and it has always been a great deal of fun—Michael's excitement at getting his hands on new data is infectious! The complementary in-depth studies that we have carried out with community language groups have taught me a lot about the communities involved, as well as about research methodology, and have also demonstrated Michael's special commitment at a human level towards everything that he does. He doesn't just take from his research subjects, he is willing to give freely of his time and expertise in ways that will help them to

achieve their linguistic goals. The two particular cases that spring to mind are the Macedonian community and their struggle for language rights in Victoria, and the Somali community, in their efforts to introduce Somali as a language of instruction in the VSL. While the academic community owes him a huge debt, as has been very eloquently expressed by others in this collection of tributes, Michael has always had the capacity to relate scholarship to real people, and to his vision of a better, more egalitarian, more just and more multilingual Australia.

Finally, Michael supervised me through my PhD, which was completed during very difficult personal times. He dared to suggest in 2002 that the thesis—which I imagined had at least another year’s worth of work attached to it—could be finished in six weeks! In the event, I finished it in eight weeks, and will always be grateful for his support and encouragement at this time. Without that challenge, it would probably have dropped out of sight entirely, never to resurface!

Michael is a true innovator and a superb networker. He can go straight to the heart of an issue and relate it to at least another half dozen issues. Then he can get people together, funding arranged and projects underway while most other people would still be thinking about it. While this has sometimes been to the detriment of his own wellbeing, I greatly respect the commitment to the tasks and to the people involved in them that has always motivated him. Michael instantly recognised the potential of the Internet to keep the international academic community in direct and collaborative touch with one another, and his networks, always impressive, took on a whole new meaning! It is a tribute to his tenacity and energy that he manages to keep about a hundred balls in the air at the same time.

I owe a huge personal debt to Michael—he has introduced me to the fun of linguistics, of data collection and analysis, as well as to the challenge of publishing. He has been endlessly encouraging. But most of all I value his friendship—we go back over two universities and almost 40 years, and I look forward to many more years of collaboration and conversation.

Sandra Kipp

ANYA WOODS

I have had the pleasure of reading through this collection of tributes as I collated them into this little book, and the task has given me great joy—and more than a laugh or two—as the memoirs of others recall for me my own experiences with Michael, as his student and as his research (read ‘technical’!) assistant over the last dozen years. I, too, have witnessed not only the incredible depth and breadth of Michael’s knowledge, but also his genuine interest in and care for those around him. The enthusiastic greeting given to me with every meeting or phonecall or email reminds me again of just how generous he is with his affection and his encouragement—how he endows those around him with the sense that they indeed have as much to contribute as he. I am so grateful for Michael’s faith in me—from those earliest comments scribbled onto my undergraduate assignments, to the negotiation of publishing contracts as I finished my PhD. I am grateful, too, for the apprenticeship he has given me into the ways of good research, as well as good humanity. Michael is much loved by my family, and they join me in wishing him God’s richest blessings as he embarks upon writing this new and exciting chapter of his remarkable life.

Anya Woods

AUSTRALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL COLLEAGUES



DICK BALDAUF

Michael Clyne is undoubtedly one of Australia's best known sociolinguists, with interests in the German language, both in Germany and in Australia, multiculturalism, multilingualism and language policy and planning. He has used the Australian census data in unique ways to explore these issues and has produced a large array of papers, articles and books, both by himself and in collaboration with colleagues. He has developed the leading edge of scholarship in several fields of importance to Australia and the world. The academics he has trained and educated are now senior scholars in their own right, carrying on and expanding the academic areas which he was responsible for initially developing, and of course developing their own areas of work. He has touched many of our lives.

However, there is another arguably more important aspect of Michael's contribution to academia which may be overlooked or overshadowed by his massive contributions to scholarship, but one which should not be forgotten. This is his commitment to academic collegiality. He has consistently worked to bring academic colleagues, particularly from Europe, to Australia to study, to lecture, to interact and to teach and to learn. These efforts have provided a richer environment for Australian scholars and importantly have brought Australian work and conditions to the world. Michael's vision of an international academy of scholars may be easier to construct and maintain in these days of the Internet, but he deserves our thanks for having nurtured and supported it during the early years when scholarship in applied linguistics and sociolinguistics was coming of age in Australia.

Dick Baldauf (University of Queensland)

KLAUS-DIETER BAUMANN

At 65, Michael Clyne is one of the most universally respected figures in the international Applied Linguistics of the present time.

His distinguished academic career as Professor of Linguistics has included many different main areas of research:

- Language as a component of national identity;
- English as a lingua franca;
- The Characterisation of Australian English;
- Language Policies in Australia;
- The Change of Language;
- Language Diversity;
- Language and Society and a lot of others.

M. Clyne's impressive works of hundreds of scientific publications range from monographs, articles, reviews and studies on German and English to Aboriginal languages.

In the autumn of his academic career he has won a unique place in the linguistics of 'old Europe'—and because of his ancestry and his subject—in the hearts of his German colleagues.

In Germany, M. Clyne is highly appreciated as one of those linguists who examined the impact of cultural values on LSP texts first. His conception of cultural styles conquered all German departments of linguistics and belongs to the basic knowledge of our students.

For the years to come I want to wish Michael all the best, especially an iron constitution and great success in new projects.

Klaus-Dieter Baumann (University of Leipzig)

ALAN BELL

Michael Clyne is Australia's foremost sociolinguist and ranks as one of the leading scholars in language and society in the world.

Michael's CV would be the envy of lesser scholars—that is, most of us—except that Michael as a person does not attract envy but admiration and respect. The last time I had occasion to see that CV was five years ago when

we invited him to be a plenary speaker at the New Zealand Language and Society conference in Auckland. At that point it contained I think about 250 entries, some 40 of them books. I have no doubt it has continued to grow exponentially since.

In delivering his address to that conference, Michael spoke with the passion, grasp and commitment that informs all his involvement in sociolinguistic issues. His range across subfields of our field is astonishing—from macro to micro, applied and theoretical, language planning, multilingualism, multiculturalism, micro-linguistic and discursal. His commitment to the issues of language in Australian and world society and the relevance of our discipline to practical action has been high and sustained.

Ten years ago Nikolas Coupland of Cardiff University and I began approaching colleagues to form the editorial board of the journal we were founding, the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. Michael was an entirely obvious choice for that board because of the breadth of his interests within the planned scope of our Journal, and as Australia's long established leading sociolinguist. He has supported and contributed to the Journal's growth and strengthening over the decade, reviewing for us and advising as requested, despite the demands of numerous other editorial boards and other capacities where his scholarly judgment is sought.

The bonus of having Michael on the board is that he is also one of the most agreeable people one could hope to deal with, and so one seeks out his company. When I have been visiting Melbourne for personal as well as work reasons, I have often made contact with Michael and lunched with him, with discussion ranging from academic matters to the state of the Anglican communion.

I wish Michael very well in the celebration of his retirement, which I can only envisage involving a continuing high level of activity—but I urge him to take the opportunity of this new time to enjoy to the full his life beyond the academy. Colleagues in New Zealand and the editorial team of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics* offer him our very warmest goodwill for his way ahead.

Alan Bell (Auckland University of Technology)

WERNER AND KATJA BESCH

Für Michael im jetzigen (Un-)Ruhestand! Erinnerung und Dank!

Die Zusammenarbeit mit Michael Clyne begann 1981. Im Rückblick nach fast 25 Jahren empfinde ich sie als einen Glücksfall, wissenschaftlich wie menschlich. Kaum ist mir bisher ein Universitätslehrer begegnet, der so intensiv und anregend in seiner wissenschaftlichen Welt lebt: der Erforschung menschlicher Sprache und ihrer Variation in ganz unterschiedlichen Situationen menschlichen Lebens. Mit Einwanderergruppen nach Australien und deren Sprachschicksalen fing es wohl an; mit Generationenabfolge und Sprachverlust, durchaus unterschiedlich in den verschiedenen Sprachen. Daraus erwachsen Anregungen für eine zu ändernde Sprachenpolitik Australiens mit besserer Bewahrung und Pflege der Einwanderersprachen neben Englisch. Das Generalthema 'Sprache und Gesellschaft' führte im Lauf der Jahre zu Erkenntnissen empirischer und terminologischer Art, die in jüngster Zeit von Melbourne aus sogar in Europa Anwendung finden, nämlich in einer vergleichenden Untersuchung der soziopolitischen Motivation von Anrede-Veränderung in Deutsch, Französisch und Schwedisch nach den politischen und mentalen Entwicklungen im jetzigen Europa. Veränderungen im Anredeverhalten sind 'seismographische' Anzeigen für Gesellschaftswandel. Michael Clyne, vorbildlich mehrsprachig, hat als Soziolinguist internationale Reputation. Der Kontakt mit ihm begann durch Lektüre, sodann durch seine Schülerin Anne Pauwels, die als Doktorandin 1980 in Bonn studierte und mit unseren Sprachwandel-Erhebungen (Erp-Projekt) bekannt wurde. 1981 durfte ich für 10 Tage zu einem regen Gedankenaustausch mit Michael nach Monash kommen, dies während eines Gastsemesters in Auckland, N Z. 1986 führte uns eine Gastdozentur an der Monash University im Frühjahrssemester länger zusammen. Gemeinsam mit Dr. Pauwels bestritten wir ein Seminar mit dem Thema: 'Sprache und Gesellschaft in den deutschsprachigen Ländern'—neben sonstigen Übungen und Vorträgen. Mit besten Erinnerungen denke ich an viele Fachgespräche zurück, auch an die Präsentation der Untersuchungsvorhaben seiner zahlreichen Doktoranden. Höhepunkt in gewissem Sinne war schliesslich ein 'Workshop on Field Methodology', bei dem mir die Rolle als Guest Speaker zudedacht war. Der Gedankenaustausch zwischen den 10 teilnehmenden

Personen, alle mit empirischen Studien beschäftigt, war äusserst fruchtbar. Dankbar und mit besten Erinnerungen denken meine Frau und ich an die grosse Gastfreundschaft aller in diesem Term zurück, insbesondere an die von Irene und Michael. Da war ein unvergesslicher Ausflug in die Dandenong Ranges, die Fahrt mit dem 'Puffing Billy', Einladungen zu Hause, Hilfsbereitschaft überall. Wir haben es bis heute nicht vergessen, dass Michael unser relativ schweres unbegleitetes Fluggepäck mit seinem Wagen zum Tullamarin-Flughafen / International Cargo gebracht hat—ein langer, zeitraubender Weg. Inzwischen konnten wir Michael mehrfach in Bonn sehen und sprechen. Das letzte Mal hat uns im Juni 2004 eine Moselfahrt mit ihm und Irene zusammengeführt. Wir freuen uns sehr auf ein Wiedersehen 2005 in Bonn. Der Emeritus ist nun entpflichtet, also frei, andererseits international sehr gefragt, gerade auch in Bonn.

Mit allen guten Wünschen,

Werner und Katja Besch (University of Bonn)

CAMILLA BETTONI

Townsville, 1975—Straight from Europe and its literature, North Queensland seemed to me an exotic blend of Piedmontese and Italian, of English and Calabrian; fascinating virgin territory for any research project. But where to start from, without a library, without a method, without a theory? Professor R.T. Sussex, a French scholar and head of my Department, showed me a copy of *Transference and Triggering*, whereupon I took the plane to Melbourne, and Michael Clyne welcomed me, to linguistics, to research, to multiculturalism.

As Michael progressed over the years from transference to shift, from foreigner talk to intercultural pragmatics, from bilingualism to trilingualism, and so on, it is odd to note how little I have actually seen him: several times only, for very brief encounters. Yet the influence Michael has had on my progress has been pervasive and deep. Although anyone may read his published work to advantage, knowing him personally has taught me an important attitude to research.

Verona, 2005—Thirty years on, in a very different context, I am still trying with my own work to honour this attitude, which is basically one of generosity and respect. Michael has always been generous with young

researchers, not only freely giving them his advice, energy and time, but also humbly respecting them as colleagues, citing their results and recommending their work to others. He has also been generous with the subjects of his enquiries, not only widely spreading the results obtained from them, but also politically acting on their behalf and respectfully serving their communities. He who teaches so much always gives the impression of learning.

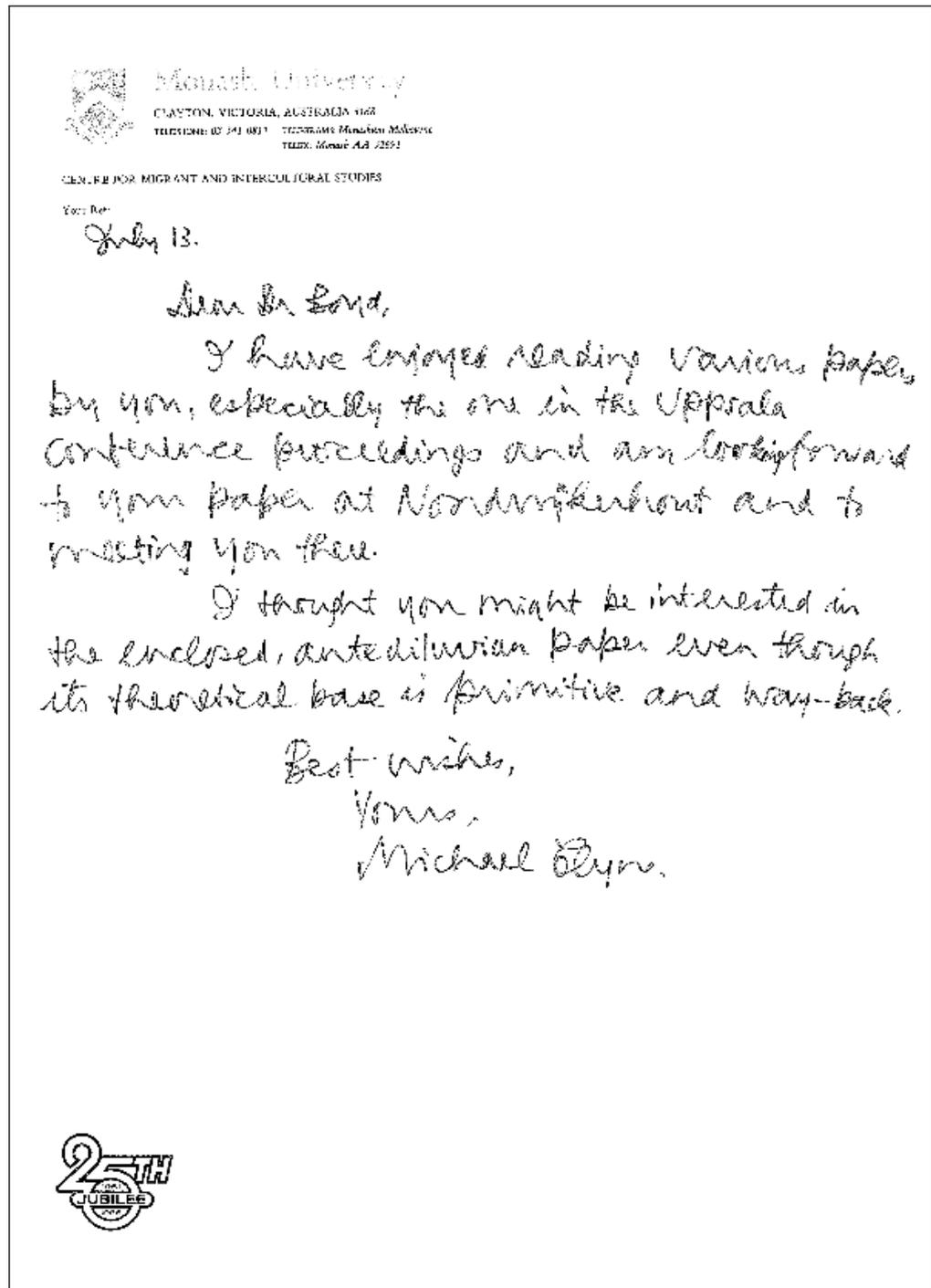
Here lies, I think, also the creativity of Michael's best work. He has achieved the rare feat of a fine balance between the solid centrality of what is established and the sparkling eccentricity of what is new. Thank you, Michael, for showing us that this kind of biculturalism is possible.

Camilla Bettoni (University of Verona)

SALLY BOYD

My first personal contact with Michael Clyne was in August of 1988, when I was a relatively new and uncertain participant in linguistics conferences outside Sweden. I had the honor of being invited to a workshop, which would take place prior to the first International Conference on the Maintenance and Loss of Ethnic Minority Languages, held in Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands. We were asked to submit papers prior to the workshop; the discussant for my paper was to be Michael, at the time already an icon for me. In the middle of July, before I had even sent in my paper for the workshop, I received the letter below. (I hope he will forgive me for reproducing it.)

I was thrilled to receive this letter, to discover that a professor in Australia, whose work I admired so much, had actually read 'papers' I had written and was looking forward to reading my paper for the coming workshop. The letter epitomizes what Michael Clyne has meant both to me and to many others in the field of language contact, multilingualism and sociolinguistics. He has in many ways been a model for me as a scholar and teacher, which I can only intermittently and partially hope to live up to. First,



his enormous energy, not only in carrying out excellent research, but at keeping up in the field, for example reading papers by unknown scholars published in obscure conference collections from Sweden. Second, his encouragement of and interest in the work of others, all over the world, not only leading scholars, but also students and young researchers. And third, his productivity and his generous sharing of his work with others, always exceedingly modestly packaged. Needless to say, to those reading this collection, his comments on my paper were kind, to the point and extremely

helpful. I learned only later that the qualities evident in this letter were coupled with a deep commitment to societal multilingualism and to an unflagging energy to work for the benefit of linguistic minority communities in Australia and around the world. This meeting was only the first of many at various places, including Melbourne and Göteborg.

I can't imagine the field of language contact, multilingualism and language policy without Michael Clyne. I trust that we won't have to imagine that at all, but that Michael will continue to carry out his outstanding work and to be a great friend and inspiration to all of us for many years to come.

Sally Boyd (Göteborg University)

DAVID BRADLEY

Michael Clyne has long been a friend and close academic colleague, with his wide reach across institutional boundaries as well as timely and wise advice. I recall many long and fruitful conversations in Michael's office in the German Department at Monash from the late 1970s, more recently in Linguistics at Monash, and most recently at the University of Melbourne, where he hosted me at RUMACCC in 2004. It has also been a pleasure to interact with him within the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, where he was instrumental in expanding the number of linguists who are fellows, and is obviously widely respected by colleagues in many other discipline areas.

Michael's research contribution has been extremely influential in my work. I have used his book *Multilingual Australia* and subsequently *Community Languages, the Australian Experience* as a textbook in Language in Society and other subjects at the University of Melbourne and La Trobe since the early 1980s, and this work continues to be highly relevant. I very often send my undergraduate and postgraduate students to read his many research outputs and to use his methodological and theoretical advances in their work as well. We followed his model in implementing two commissioned research projects for DEST in the 1980s, and found this a most productive process. I contributed to several of his edited volumes, such as the major Mouton de Gruyter volume identifying and investigating the issues concerning pluricentric languages and another Pacific Linguistics volume on crosscultural communication, the focus of much of Michael's work, and found him to be a

most supportive and wise editor. The breadth and influence of his research output is truly amazing.

Michael was also a leading figure in the PlanLangPol process of the 1980s, and through this a national language policy for Australia was implemented, with a crucial input from him and from other linguists, and very substantial outcomes including the establishment of NLLIA and various research centres including Michael's own at Monash. This and other initiatives by Michael have greatly improved the language situation in Australia; for many years, the whole of the nation has benefited.

It is most impressive to see the constant stream of top-level overseas visitors who come to visit and work with Michael. His network of contacts, especially in Europe, has also opened many doors for me there. Michael's fantastic research output, his visitors, and his linkage for all of us to the latest work in Europe provide a constant stimulus for so many of us. This is especially so for his many postgraduate students; the buzz of sociolinguistic research at RUMACCC is impressive to witness, and highly productive to participate in.

Thank you, Michael!

David Bradley (La Trobe University)

ANNE CUTLER

Bonn, Nordrhein-Westfalen: Two Vignettes

(1) It's 1968. A young Australian with a degree in German is studying in Bonn, supported by a DAAD studentship, and her MA supervisor, a not-that-much-older lecturer in German from Monash University, is in Bonn for a while too on sabbatical leave. Of course they hang out on occasion together, two Australians in that distant and sometimes bemusing town. Bonn in the 1960s is the capital of the Federal Republic, full of diplomats and politicians and journalists and in general thus full of its own importance, but at the same time still clearly a small town, with all the suffocating manifestations of a small town mentality, underneath. The advisor has been in Bonn before, so the student can learn a lot from him about the town. And he knows the German linguistics scene inside out, so the student can pick his brains on that score too. And of course he is the source of all the advice she needs on her MA

thesis work as well. On other facets of life the student is of the opinion that the advisor could possibly learn from her. 1968 is a tumultuous year to be a student in Europe, and this student is keeping on top of all the political developments. (That the advisor is aware of the student's political engagement is apparent a year or two later, when, as Monash colleagues, they are up country on a field trip during one of the Vietnam Moratorium days. The advisor unilaterally and somewhat nervously decrees a work-free afternoon at the time when in Melbourne the mass demonstration is taking place.) Food and drink is another topic to which the student has devoted considerable attention. So when her advisor invites her for a meal she brings along a bottle of wine of her own careful selection. They don't manage to finish it up. Did he enjoy the rest of the wine? she asks him a day or two later. Oh yes, he replies—he had taken a dash of it in his tea that very day.... Such uncompromising resistance to Lucullian temptations! You have to admire it.

(2) It's 31 years later. Much has changed. Bonn is no longer the Federal capital but has reverted to its underlying reality and become once more a sleepy Rhineland backwater. The student is no longer working on German studies in either Germany or Australia but has turned into a psycholinguist and a resident of the Netherlands, while the lecturer in German, though still at Monash, has become a professor of linguistics. They meet again in Bonn, though. No way she is going to miss being there as he is presented with the Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm Prize, with the ceremony taking place in the University Club of Bonn, only a two hour drive from her current home in Nijmegen. What an achievement for an Australian to win this prestigious prize! With enormous pride she listens as her former advisor coolly explains to the Germans how much, in the area of integration of immigrants, they could learn from a small country whose whole culture has depended on such integration. Now that is really something to admire!

Anne Cutler (Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen)

KEES DE BOT

Over de jaren ik heb gewerkt met Micheal met veel plezier. Hij is geweest een bron van inspiratie en kennis en ik heb altijd gehad bewondering voor zijn enorme nieuwsgierigheid en openheid tot nieuwe ontwikkelingen en

theorieën. Zijn ondersteuning bij ons onderzoek naar het Nederlands in Australië was onmisbaar en we zijn nog steeds aan het gebruiken de teksten die we verzamelden toen. Mijn studenten zijn altijd verbaasd als zij Mw. B horen pratend in haar mengsel van Nederlands en Engels. Ze weigeren te geloven dat iemand kan echt praten op zo'n manier. Een van de dingen die ik me herinner van zijn vroegere werk en dat ik altijd geniet om te vertellen is dat hij voegde in zijn interviews aan de Nederlanders om een 'typische' dag te beschrijven. Nu er is een interessant klein verschil tussen Nederlands 'typisch' en Duits 'typisch'. In Nederlands het betekent 'ongewoon' en in Duits 'gewoon', dus de betekenissen zijn tegengesteld. Op Michael's vraag 'om een typische dag te beschrijven', de subjecten reageerden altijd met verbazing: wat zou zijn een typische dag?

Michael's werk zal blijven belangrijk voor mij in de rest van mijn carrière, en zijn kennis en wijsheid zullen blijven een voorbeeld voor mij en mijn studenten.

Kees de Bot (University of Groningen)

KONRAD EHLICH

Eine bewundernswerte universitäre Laufbahn ist zu ihrem institutionellen Ende gekommen. Anlaß für Rückblick und Würdigung. Michael Clynes Werk hat eine weltweite Rezeption und ein vielfältiges Echo gefunden. Ohne Zweifel gehört Michael Clyne zugleich zu den Wissenschaftlern, die über ihren engeren Wirkungsbereich hinaus in der Öffentlichkeit gehört wurden und werden.

Drei Facetten seiner Arbeit möchte ich hervorheben.

Die erste Facette ist seine große Wachheit für die *gesellschaftliche Relevanz wissenschaftlicher Arbeit*. Michael Clyne hat von seinen ersten Themen und Publikationen an eine besondere Sensibilität für sprachliche Fragestellungen an den Tag gelegt, die sich in seiner Gesellschaft ergaben. Die *Mehrsprachigkeit*, wie er sie von seiner Familiengeschichte her kannte und in seiner Stadt Melbourne und ihrem Staat Victoria tagtäglich erlebte, wurde ihm zum beherrschenden Thema. Was häufig und auch in seiner Familie in Emigration und Flucht begann, führte zu einer neuen Sprachlichkeit. Sie sollte sich zunehmend als Charakteristikum einer immer mobileren Welt

herausstellen. Das Europa der ersten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts hatte seine Konzepte von Nation, Nationalität und im Gefolge häufig Nationalismus) auf das engste mit Einsprachigkeit verbunden. So galt diesem Jahrhundert Mehrsprachigkeit als individuell hinderlich und gesellschaftlich verwerflich, als ein Übel, das durch Assimilation zu bearbeiten war. Demgegenüber ein neues Konzept für Multilingualismus mit offenen Horizonten entworfen zu haben, ist ein Verdienst Michael Clynes, das in die Zukunft weist. Seine gesellschaftliche Bedeutung ist kaum zu überschätzen.

Die zweite Facette sind Michael Clynes linguistische Interessen. Sie galten früh dem *Deutschen* und dem Niederländischen. Bevor er seine Tätigkeit als allgemeiner Sprachwissenschaftler in einen weiteren Zusammenhang einbrachte, verfolgte er insbesondere die deutschen sprachlichen Entwicklungen der Gegenwart. Von den frühen, Neuland eröffnenden Studien zum „Gastarbeiter“-Deutsch bis hin zu den jüngsten Arbeiten berichtete er darüber in der englischsprachigen Welt. Ebenso intensiv verfolgt er—als einer, der der deutschen Sprache auch in ihren komplexeren Formen und Stilen mächtig ist und der zugleich in der englischsprachigen wissenschaftlichen community schreibt—die in den deutschsprachigen Ländern und in der internationalen Germanistik erarbeiteten sprachwissenschaftlichen Erkenntnisse. Die Unterschiede besonders der deutsch- und der englischsprachigen Wissenschaftskulturen hat er auch zum Gegenstand eigener linguistischer Untersuchungen gemacht.

So ist Michael Clyne ein Botschafter und hermeneutischer Mittler in einer wissenschaftlichen Landschaft, die zunehmend vor allem durch Einbahnstraßen gekennzeichnet ist.

Eine intensive Reisetätigkeit, die ihn—anfangs noch mit dem Schiff, dann mit dem Flugzeug—um den Globus und immer wieder zwischen Australien und Europa hin- und herführt, macht ihn auch äußerlich zu einem Weltbürger. Die Innenseite dieses *Weltbürgertums* ist jene Aufmerksamkeit für in verschiedenen Teilen der Welt durchaus differenziert und mit je spezifischen Erkenntnis- Sprach- und Methodeninteressen und -erfahrungen gewonnene wissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse.

Die dritte Facette, die ich hervorheben möchte, sind seine ungeheure *Arbeitskraft*, seine—manchmal gesundheitlichen Hemmnissen geradezu abgetrotzte—Beständigkeit und ein exemplarisches Durchhaltevermögen. Sie

sind in ihm gepaart mit der Gabe eines eingängigen Stils und einer verständlichen Darstellung in den Büchern und Aufsätzen, in denen die Marksteine seines Erkennens und Forschens niedergelegt sind.

Diese große Energie verbindet sich mit einer *Bescheidenheit*, wie sie in Zeiten des self-marketing kaum noch anzutreffen ist, mit einer einnehmenden *Freundlichkeit* und einer Fähigkeit, sein Wissen und seine Erfahrungen an andere weiterzugeben – an die Kollegen und Kolleginnen, die er uneigennützig berät, besonders aber an die Studenten und Studentinnen, die er mit Geduld und einer ausgesprochenen maieutischen Begabung begleitet und fördert.

Michael Clynés Werk und Wirkungsweise sind leuchtende Beispiele für das, was Wissenschaft im Betreiben ihres ureigenen Geschäftes vermag und wie Wissenschaft in einer vernünftigen Weise in die Gesellschaft hineinwirkt, so ihre gesellschaftliche Verantwortung wahrnehmend. Wenn heute in sogenannten Universitäts-Reformen von sogenannten Universitäts-Reformern diese Art von Wissenschaft für beendet oder für zu beenden erklärt wird, wenn Wissenschaftlern das Betreiben dieser Art von Wissenschaft also unmöglich gemacht werden soll, so zeigt der Blick auf ein Werk, wie es von Michael Clyne erbracht wurde, welche Verluste und gesellschaftlichen Schäden dem Gemeinwesen von einer oft ahnungs- und kenntnislosen Wissenschaftspolitik drohen.

In einer bewundernswerten wissenschaftlichen Laufbahn ist eine Etappe abgeschlossen. Dieses Ende ist ein Anfang, der neue Handlungsmöglichkeiten bietet: Anlaß für Ausblick und gute Wünsche. In bezug auf seine *universitäre Laufbahn* blickt Michael Clyne, blickt seine University of Melbourne auf einen Abschied zurück. In bezug auf Michael Clynés *wissenschaftliche Laufbahn* erhoffen und wünschen seine Freunde von Herzen Gesundheit für ihn und die Nutzung der neuen Chancen—*ad multos annos!*

Konrad Ehlich (University of Munich)

JOSHUA FISHMAN

I could write almost endlessly about Michael Clyne. He is one of the saints that God has placed here among ordinary mortals in order to enable us to follow his lead in doing good things for all and sundry.

Nevertheless, I will limit myself to just a few summary remarks. Not only is Michael a wonderful person but he reaches his peak as a host. He has brought countless scholars to Australia for lectures and consultation, thereby enriching both Australian higher education as well as broadening the horizons of the visitors. Michael cares for his visitors as only a mother-hen can for her chicks and makes sure that each one is safe, sound and happy during every day of his visit.

Michael is a superb scholar himself and the prospect of spending several days with him is enough to convince most prospective invitees to accept with alacrity. He knows the literature, the research methods, the integrative theories and the most promising frontiers better than anyone else that I know. He is literally a world class scholar. Michael is not only a friend of multiculturalism but he is a fine example of it himself. He comes to conferences almost anywhere in the world fully conversant in the local language and his family has become a leading exemplar of the manifold benefits and blessings whereof he writes and lectures.

Michael has kept himself young and active into his 60's and it is a pleasure to know that we will have the benefit of his stimulation until he reaches the proverbial 120 years of age. He will just continue endlessly to write, lecture, teach and befriend every language and culture on earth. Good for you Michael and how good that your colleagues at home and abroad recognized your many sterling virtues and have rushed in to honor you. Looking forward to meeting you next in Buenos Aires, Brussels, Botswana or Berlin, I send you my very fondest good wishes and most heartfelt thanks for all your many kindnesses to me over the years! YOU WILL NEVER RETIRE, I'M SURE OF THAT. YOUR FRIENDS WILL SIMPLY NOT LET YOU DO IT, NEITHER TO YOURSELF NOR TO THEM!

Joshua Fishman (Yeshiva University)

BEAT GLAUSER

The first seminar course I offered (Basel, 1977) was on 'Languages in Contact'. Sixty-five students enrolled, as against five in the alternative 'The Language of Chaucer', which meant an unexpectedly large number of assignments. Fortunately, a book entitled *Forschungsbericht Sprachkontakt* had

just appeared. It was among the first publications suggesting possible assignments.

Forschungsbericht Sprachkontakt also became popular in Heidelberg. It regularly disappeared from the library, and we had to replace it at least three times. When this was not possible any longer—the book was out of print by then—my private copy had to step in. Needless to say, ...

My interests on coming to Heidelberg were very narrow: Northern England, Scotland and—tentatively—creole studies. Thus it took me almost twenty years to notice what the author of *Forschungsbericht Sprachkontakt* had done in the meantime: putting on the map a modern, multicultural and multilingual Australia, in which language contact, bilingualism and multilingualism were the rule rather than the exception and which was very different from the (post-)colonial clichés on record at the time.

In the summer of 1997 our Heidelberg ‘Graduiertenkolleg’, run jointly by colleagues from the departments of German, Romance and English languages, invited Michael Clyne as a guest-professor and placed him in ‘Anglistik’, two doors down the corridor from my office. We promptly expected him to teach in English (very few colleagues were able to do so at the time), I now realise what a terrible shock this must have been to such a staunch defender of the German language.

Our students flocked to him in great numbers since he very quickly got himself a reputation as being student-friendly and fond of teaching, which made him slightly exotic in the German system. We met regularly in the Thursday afternoon seminars of the ‘Graduiertenkolleg’, and Michael became ‘notorious’ for asking questions we had not asked before. Suddenly, sociolinguistic variables and language shifts were not entities *per se* any longer, they were embedded in questions of cross-cultural communication and miscommunication.

In 1999/2000, when I followed Michael’s invitation to spend my Sabbatical in Melbourne, his ‘realities’ made themselves felt from the very beginning. My first haircut was in a place with four barbers and twelve clients, all apart from me speaking Italian, and my wife was guessed to have any number of nationalities apart from her Swiss one. After five months of

Australia, there were still 'surprises', and we gratefully embraced the possibility to return for a second Sabbatical in 2004/2005.

Ten months in Australia also gave us a chance to appreciate the dry humour of Michael Clyne the private person who, when asked for the surname of a colleague (for bibliographical reference) replied simply: 'I don't know. I don't hate him'.

Dear Michael, all my colleagues who retired were busier afterwards than before; I know that you won't be an exception. Let me just say that Jocelyne and I like very much the Australia you describe and propagate. May you and it have the future you envisage.

Beat Glauser (University of Heidelberg)

JANET HOLMES

Michael Clyne is an outstanding scholar in every respect. His research output is prolific and of the highest quality. His energy, enthusiasm and infectious positive approach to research are renowned among his friends and colleagues, and amaze those who meet him for the first time. Michael has long been an inspiration to me, as well as a supportive colleague in every possible respect. He is the most generous-spirited of people.

He has argued over several decades that sociolinguists have a responsibility to undertake research which will have benefits for the wider community. His own research is a model from this perspective; he has been an applied sociolinguist extraordinaire. In particular, I have found marvellously motivating his work in community bilingualism, and more recently trilingual language learning, as well as his international scholarly lead in language in the workplace research. Michael has been engaged for decades in research which is of direct value in informing a wide range of aspects of language policy, including the specific needs of people entering the workforce for the first time. Much of his theoretical work has very valuable practical outcomes, providing materials and resources for enhancing second language learning among immigrant groups. More specifically, he has made an outstanding contribution to the maintenance of the minority language of the children and grandchildren of many immigrants to the multicultural city of Melbourne. And he has been a great disseminator of information. He has run

many instructive seminars and worthwhile workshops disseminating the results of sociolinguistic research for the benefit of the wider community, providing excellent guidance for those interested in language issues.

Michael's work inspired our Wellington Language in the Workplace Project. He has been to visit us and he has generously hosted me and a number of my postgraduate students over many years, liberally supporting our efforts with time, advice, access to resources, introductions to useful people, relevant references, and much more. His own work, especially in Melbourne factories, provided a model methodology which we adapted to our context, and his analytical approach also provided a useful framework. Like him, we have aimed to produce practical outputs such as videos and training materials for newcomers to the workplace and especially those with English as a second language.

In sum, Michael Clyne's name is associated with the very best work on multiculturalism and linguistic diversity in all contexts. His work has been internationally recognised for its exceptional precision and rigour, as well as its sensitivity. And he is much-loved by colleagues—deeply democratic by nature, he practises what he preaches about the participatory workplace. Our children have met many scholars over the years when they stayed with us. They greatly admired Michael's gentle manners, and the fact that he treated them with dignity and respect, although they were young and ignorant! I hope we will see him in New Zealand again before too long. We can hope that retirement may make some space in his busy life—though I know him better than to bank on it!

Janet Holmes (Victoria University of Wellington)

WERNER KALLMEYER

Michael in Mannheim—a mentor and companion of sociolinguistic studies. From the 1970s on, Michael was a regular guest of the Institute for the German Language in Mannheim. Most of his journeys to Europe allowed him to stop at Mannheim, visit the colleagues of the institute and continue the discussion of his and our current projects. Practically all of his major fields of study came into play in these encounters which we all feel to be highly important for our view of the state of the art in sociolinguistics. And his vivid

interest in our projects has always had a very motivating and encouraging effect on our attempts to solve troublesome problems. I just want to mention four of the major topics of our discussions.

One of these points of discussion is the development of the German language in East and West Germany, as well as the development of dialect speaking in Germany and the status of German as a pluricentric language—all topics of Michael's book *The German language in a changing Europe*. The insights of this book and the ongoing discussion with Michael have had an important impact on the approach of a project about the variation of the spoken German standard which started recently at the IDS and will be realized as a collaborative study with colleagues from all German-speaking areas in middle Europe.

Another important feature of Michael's influence on our work concerns the question of how to establish an adequate view of the new multilingualism in Germany. Our interest in the new minorities in Germany, mainly the German Turks' social and linguistic development, confronted us with the official German policy which, still today, has great difficulties in acknowledging officially the factual immigration which has been going on for at least four decades. We were deeply impressed by everything we read and heard from Michael about 'community languages' in Australia and the status of multilingualism in the Australian society. We appreciated very much his supporting our perspective on the 'normality of multilingualism in Germany' which we would like to be officially accepted in our society.

On a more theoretical level, Michael's inspiring considerations on the *Dynamics of Language Contact*—another of his seminal books—went to the core of the conceptual and analytical work of the research group 'Language variation as communicative practice' ('Sprachvariation als kommunikative Praxis', Forschergruppe of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), which united six projects from the universities of Mannheim and Tübingen and the IDS for the study of different situations of migration and multilingual international industrial groups. So, it was a natural consequence that we asked him to accept the role of an international expert of the research group and work with us on such puzzling things as code-switching, linguistic convergence, transference or plurilingual processing.

Finally, Michael's current project on 'Address in Western European Languages' impressed us again with his keen-witted choice of an important topic of great linguistic and social interest—a choice which made us question ourselves why we did not conceive the idea of such a project before. And, once more, we felt the need of learning from him how to manage such a complex project in a very effective and economic way.

We are looking for further discussion; we need it.

Werner Kallmeyer (Institute for the German Language, Mannheim)

BOB KAPLAN

Michael Clyne and I met for the first time when I visited Monash University on 13 June 1978. I was then in Australia for six months as a Fulbright Scholar. It was an amazingly productive visit for me, since I was able to visit many academic institutions and meet many distinguished academics essentially across Australia's eastern region—from Darwin to Adelaide. But the meeting with Michael was special, since it marked the beginning of a quarter-century of friendship—of correspondence, contact, and cooperation.

To my amazement, Michael knew my budding research and was able to offer many useful comments and suggestions. We shared interests in writing and in reading in a second language. We talked about a cooperative research project that—as the result of my inability to participate as fully as I had wanted to—never came to fruition. But Michael was patient and generous with his time. We continued to exchange messages and ideas. He did me the honor of allowing me to read several of his manuscripts. He contributed an article to the 1983 volume of the *Annual Review of Applied Linguistics*—which I edited. That particular issue has received wide attention and has often been cited in the literature as indeed has most of his other work.

But Michael's contributions go far beyond our joint interest in second-language reading and writing; indeed, he has spanned the whole scope of sociolinguistics and has become an internationally recognized expert in most of its sub-fields. He has done seminal work in Australia, charting its 'languages other than English'; he has done extensive work on German, and he invented the use of census data in charting the survival of second-languages in multilingual Australia.

No doubt he will continue being productive in his retirement; it is inconceivable to consider the world of sociolinguistics without Michael.

Bob Kaplan (University of Southern California)

MIKLÓS KONTRA

Michael, the activist

Linguists in many countries of the world know Michael Clyne in many capacities. Clyne as authority on contact linguistics, then on German sociolinguistics, then as inventor (discoverer?) of pluricentric languages, prolific author of books published by Cambridge University Press, Mouton de Gruyter, or by little-known-in-Europe Australian publishers. He is on the board of many a leading journal. He is one of the best known sociolinguists today, and that is no small achievement, given the size and popularity of sociolinguistics in all corners of the world five years into the 21st century.

As far as I know, Michael first came to Hungary, at least in the capacity of a linguist, in the early 1990s. It was after his book on pluricentric languages was published. This is important because (1) there is nothing about Hungarian as a pluricentric language in that book, and (2) the idea of pluricentricity immediately provoked one of the greatest and fiercest battles in the history of Hungarian linguistics. For all we needed to do was to read *Pluricentric Languages* and think a minute or two to realize that Hungarian WAS a pluricentric language *par excellence*. This did not sit well with the authoritarian figures in Hungarian linguistics a decade ago. They regarded the pluricentricity of Hungarian not as a sociolinguistic fact but as some erroneous western idea, the application of which to Hungarian would facilitate the forced assimilation of Hungarian minorities in Hungary's neighboring countries. The linguists who had the intellectual capacity to think about Hungarian as a pluricentric language were immediately called traitors to the nation or worse. Clyne did not know a thing about this when we invited him to the Linguistics Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Nor did he know or expect that his citations in Hungary would soon skyrocket. And no one had the slightest suspicion that this slender and soft-spoken gentleman linguist was a robust social activist when there was a need for it.

On November 15, 1995, the Slovak Parliament in Bratislava passed a highly restrictive state language law, whose aim was to forcibly assimilate the 600 thousand indigenous Hungarians who live in southern Slovakia. Michael, along with Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, Robert Phillipson, Phil Benson, Richard Benton and other colleagues, immediately responded to my call for an international protest. At that time I was an ACLS fellow at Michigan State University in the USA. Tove and Robert were in Denmark as usual, and Michael was in Australia. All four of us had email and an urge to protest this awful linguicism in Slovakia.

I had zero experience in international protests. Tove and company had more than anyone would ever dream of. Michael, at least to my surprise, turned out to be a seasoned activist like Tove is. A call for protest was compiled and it was pre-signed by scores of famous sociolinguists like Fishman, Labov and Trudgill. An information pack was assembled with lots of materials for those who wished to read about the language situation in Slovakia before signing the protest. A model letter was composed for protesters. With Tove, Robert and myself, Michael spent many hours working on the protest every day for two months before April 17, 1996, the day when the protest was launched. As a result, well over a hundred letters were faxed, emailed and mailed to leading politicians in Slovakia. The protesters included not only linguists but academics in many other fields and at least one Member of the European Parliament. Meanwhile Michael found time to go on Australian Radio and gave an interview on Slovakia. Times were rather harsh in Slovakia in 1996. The leading Hungarian linguist István Lanstyák's telephone was tapped, his mail sent to me in Michigan came in an envelope slit open, and he could be arrested under a brand-new law on the protection of the Republic of Slovakia at any time the government liked. Consequently, in the final weeks of preparations before launching the protest, we decided to exclude Lanstyák from all communications. But this then meant that we could not ask him to verify that everything in our call for protest was correct. At this point Michael translated the call into some secret language and emailed it to Lanstyák. He was unable to break the code...

Our protest generated predictable reactions from the Slovak government and some linguists in Slovakia, but it also gave rise to unwelcome email discussions on a few lists, some of them attacking the organizers of the protest

ad hominem. Now was the time for Michael to combine scholarship with activism. He point by point showed, very patiently, how some of the attackers misrepresented the facts. His calm rationality had little effect though, since those who started the ‘debate’ were continually reinterpreting everything in order to prolong the discussion indefinitely. After a while a decision had to be made: quit the ‘debate’ (which may create the false impression that Michael Clyne was one of those linguists who masterminded an international protest on unjustifiable grounds) or continue the unwinnable ‘debate’ of reinterpretations and distortions. He knew when to quit.

Hungarians in Central Europe are indebted to Michael Clyne for the idea of pluricentric languages, which has made it possible for us to view ourselves (i.e. one cultural nation in eight political nations) in a sociolinguistically much more rational and realistic way than before. The most authoritative Hungarian dictionary *Magyar értelmező kéziszótár* (2nd edition, Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2003) now recognizes the legitimacy of contact varieties of Hungarian in the neighboring countries, for which Michael the linguist is in no small part responsible. Since 1996 the language rights violations in Slovakia have decreased, for which Michael the activist also bears some responsibility. *Köszönjük szépen, Michael, derék munka volt!*

Miklós Kontra (Linguistics Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences)

GERHARD LEITNER

I cannot remember when exactly I met Michael but it must have been in early 1984 during my first stay in Australia. I was on sabbatical leave and spent around 8 months at The University of Sydney and Macquarie, apart from searching the ABC Archives.

Within months of my return a colleague of mine at the Department of English, Volker Raddatz, and myself convened the first ever ‘Australia Day’ symposium—an interdisciplinary event with Australian literature, cultural studies and language. The mini-conference took place on the outskirts of Berlin in the summer of 1984 and Michael was one of the guests. Other guests were Arthur Delbridge, Walter Veit and the Australian Embassy. It was a great success, with Michael talking about migrant languages. Not too long after that we established a student exchange agreement between his and my

university, which also involved Walter Veit, which has been going on ever since. It was a great success in the early days, but has ebbed off for reasons to do with The University of Melbourne's funding arrangements for its own students.

During the years to 1992 we had a fairly intensive partnership, with Michael providing opportunities for publications in my field. In 1992 I was invited to act as a guest lecturer at Michael's department at Monash. I taught Australian English—a great honour and sign of trust. Our collaboration became more intensive and research-focused. In 1995 I was awarded a research professorship from the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee on the suggestion of Michael. I was able to spend 12 months at Monash and we got to know Michael even better than we had done in the past. It was a marvellous year—with a number of upheavals of a kind I don't want to mention. But I had pledged myself to write a book on Australia's language habitat—a big issue as it turned out.

It was here that Michael had taken an even greater role than ever before. I remember sitting in his office, browsing his rich library, talking about what to do, asking how to get in touch and what to do. Michael was not only a great listener, he was always positive, encouraging and helpful. I can't remember the number of telephone calls he made on my behalf—putting me in touch with BIMPR, CEDA, ACE, SBS and all the other institutions I needed. As a draft reader he was excellent. And when it turned out that the pledge could not be fulfilled within a reasonable time, there was no grudge.

I experienced his teaching many times. I sat in on his classes, saw his lectures in Melbourne and here in Berlin. And I saw how he managed to put over messages that made students think, involved them in an argument.

After 1996 I had seen him at The University of Melbourne, in Bonn where he was awarded the Wilhelm und Jakob Grimm award as the most outstanding Germanist of the year. That event was humorous and so typical of Michael. The then State Minister of Cultural Affairs, Dr Neumann (who is now senior editor of the weekly *Die Zeit*) gave the *laudatio*. There was a reception followed by a formal dinner with Dr Neumann. Michael was seated next to him. There was also a German linguist whose name I forget sitting

next to Michael. Instead of focusing on Dr Neumann's attempts to have some small talk, Michael got involved in a linguistic issue with that linguist.

He appreciated the award of course, but despite all honours, helping others—whatever the circumstances—was more important. Modesty, encouragement and practical help—these are some of the most outstanding characteristics of Michael as a scholar and a person.

I'll be ever grateful to have met him so early in my career.

Gerhard Leitner (Free University of Berlin)

LI WEI

Whenever I think of Michael, two words come to mind immediately—'generous' and 'inspirational'. In the spring of 1999, Michael came to spend a month in Newcastle-upon-Tyne prior to the 2nd International Symposium on Bilingualism. He was due to deliver a keynote speech at the Symposium, but he came early to discuss research with me and other colleagues in my School. He was staying in a student flat. I felt bad about it because we couldn't afford to put him up in a proper hotel for the duration of his stay. But Michael was extremely understanding and didn't make any fuss at all. In fact, he spent most of his time in the office patiently going through the outline of *The Bilingualism Reader* I was editing for Routledge. He advised me on the selection of articles. His advice was insightful and practical. We spent a few days discussing the details of some of the papers I was going to include, as I needed to work out an introduction and some study questions to go with the articles. I learned a great deal from the discussions we had, and the end product has proved to be very popular worldwide. Michael played a critical part in the success of the Reader.

Many people have been touched by Michael's generosity directly or indirectly. Michael is on the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Bilingualism* that I'm editing. I often call on Michael to referee submissions. Michael always tries his best to help. On the rare occasion that he couldn't review a paper for us, because he was too busy with other commitments, he always suggested alternatives and was ever so apologetic. His comments were typically constructive and to-the-point. He would never say something was no good; instead, he would offer suggestions as to how to improve the paper.

Michael takes other people's work very seriously, no matter how junior they may be. I have seen Michael listening attentively to presentations at academic conferences and making insightful comments. I have also seen him reading closely posters and discussing them in great detail with the authors. He never hesitates to give out his contact details to colleagues who are interested in his work, and always keeps his promise to send papers and references to people.

In August 2004, I had the pleasure of visiting Michael in Melbourne with my wife and our two sons. He arranged for me to give a talk in his Department and to meet his postgraduate students. He and his wife Irene came to the hotel and took us out for a nice Vietnamese dinner. In the course of the meal, he told us many interesting facts about the Vietnamese community, and other ethnic communities, in Melbourne. He also took me on a tour of the Melbourne University campus. I could see in the discussions I had with his postgraduates how much care he gave to his students and how much his students loved working with him.

I cannot imagine Michael retiring from work. I am sure he will continue to produce fascinating and influential research as he has done over the decades. His work has enriched our understanding of multilingualism and multiculturalism across the globe as well as the multilingual and multicultural lives we personally experience.

Li Wei (University of Newcastle)

HELEN MOORE

An image that comes to mind in thinking about Michael's contribution to the theory and practice of Applied Linguistics is that of a rock. From my perspective (coming back to Australia in 1975), Michael has always been there: solid in his work and commitments. Michael has been—and I'm sure will remain—rock-solid in his on-going vision and persistent contribution to building up Australia as a multicultural, multilingual society. Michael's contribution will always be considered foundational in Australian Applied Linguistics: his research has provided important knowledge and insights and been a touchstone for other work; the numerous graduate students he has supervised and supported are the hard core of research and practice in

Applied Linguistics in many universities and schools. For me and many others who have known him as colleagues, his availability, support and encouragement have been solid as a rock.

Michael, you are a pillar of Australian Applied Linguistics and your retirement won't change this.

The image of a rock does not, however, capture everything about Michael and his contribution—unless we think of molten substances that boil in the earth's centre and come to form rocks. Michael's passion for his work in furthering multilingualism is white-hot and an inspiration, not cold and static. His work in translating his vision into specific research and practical projects, and his energy and ability to infuse this energy in others, are also better compared to something fiery and fluid. When he's spoken out for this vision, he's been red-hot! His interactions with others are warm, welcoming and generous. He could never be described as a hard man!

Michael, your passion and commitment will bubble on in our field and in our hearts and minds. It is your dynamic legacy to those who know you personally and/or have read and used your work, and to the wider community to which you are so committed.

Helen Moore (formerly, La Trobe University)

PIETER MUYSKEN

Michael Clyne, a view from the Low Countries

Since his visit to Utrecht in his student days, Michael has been a frequent visitor to the Netherlands, and has had close links with a number of Dutch researchers and institutions. At the University of Tilburg, he is best known for his comparative work on different immigrant groups in the Australian context. In Nijmegen, both at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, the base of some of Michael's most ardent fans such as Anne Cutler, and at what is now called Radboud University Nijmegen, it is his work on bilingual processing that has attracted most attention. At the University of Groningen, Kees de Bot (formerly at Nijmegen) has been primarily interested in Michael's work on language attrition. Everywhere in the Netherlands Michael is best known for his work on the Dutch immigrant community in Australia, of course.

Personally, my first contact with Michael was when he was editing the issue on Foreigner Talk of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, and he commented on an article of Catherine Snow, Roos van Eeden, and myself, at that time still in Amsterdam. Shortly afterwards I became interested in code-mixing and code-switching, and since the early 1980s our paths have kept crossing, even if only by mail. Michael's letters have always been prompt, very much to the point and polite, as the readers of this small collection will be aware. Some of his ideas, on triggering and convergence, are among the most interesting contributions in this rapidly expanding area. Also, his actual research, as evidenced in the recent book, is fascinating as well as sometimes frustrating. To quote from a forthcoming review of mine of the Dynamics book: 'The value of MC's book lies in two things: (a) the rich data sets from a single macro-sociolinguistic setting, immigrant communities in Australia, that are represented and contrasted, and (b) the broad range of approaches and theoretical concepts brought to bear on the data presented. The author is sensitive to the constant interaction of structural and non-linguistic factors in accounting for the data.' Fascinating because of the wealth of data and insights presented, frustrating because these insights will require another lifetime of research to be tested and further elaborated. I very much hope that his many students will have a chance to continue to explore the many directions he has pointed to. Michael will come and visit us in May, in Kleve, at the German-Dutch border, symbolizing his impartial interest in both German and Dutch throughout his career. Perhaps we can repay him some of the hospitality he has extended to so many of us in Melbourne over the years.

Pieter Muysken (Radboud University Nijmegen)

CAROL MYERS-SCOTTON

It is a pleasure to join colleagues in congratulating Michael Clyne on his official retirement from an academic post. I say 'official' because I am sure he will continue as a productive scholar for years to come. I have known Michael for a number of years, certainly since the first International Symposium on Bilingualism that was held in 1997 at Newcastle, UK. I am sure Michael was instrumental in recommending me as a lecturer to the Australian Linguistic Society for its July 1998 Linguistics Institute. During our time together there,

we had many good discussions about our mutual interest in codeswitching. Then, Michael and I shared the honor of serving as plenary speakers at the second symposium that was held again at Newcastle two years later (1999). Since then, Michael and I have corresponded by email and have met at several other conferences.

Language contact phenomena have become objects of major interest to many linguists since the late 1990s. But Michael's work in this area began long before others discovered this field. His early works on describing multilingualism in Australia and on language policy are well known. But he has remained in the forefront of studies on language contact so that today his more theoretical approaches to grammatical outcomes of multilingualism are being cited by many others in the field (e.g. his 2003 research monograph *Dynamics of Language Contact*). Australia, with its many bilingual and even trilingual speakers, remains the source of his data.

While I am impressed with Michael as an amazingly productive scholar, I most value him for the kind of person he is. I remember well our days at the 1998 Australian Linguistics Institute. Here he was, probably the leading scholar on language contact in Australia; but how did he present himself? I remember that he was as eager and willing as the new graduate students there to consider new approaches to what he had been writing about already for years. This characteristic openness makes him a valued member of the academic community, but it also makes him the kind of a person whom other contact linguists are happy to call a true friend. I can think of no other scholar in the field with whom I would rather share a park bench at a conference to mull over our own new ideas and those of others.

Carol Myers-Scotton (University of South Carolina)

JOHN NIEUWENHUYSEN

Professor Michael Clyne is pre-eminent in his field. He brings to language scholarship an enthusiasm and depth of expertise that is probably unmatched in the Australian profession. Michael is an avid student of his subject, an outstanding teacher and author, and an imaginative conceiver and driver of research, inspiring many of his peers and younger colleagues and students through all his endeavours. No one listening to Michael speak of

language study can fail to be impressed and carried along by his love of the subject, his wealth of knowledge, and his infectious ebullience. My own experiences of Michael's talents extend back to over a decade ago when, as Director of the Commonwealth Bureau of Immigration, Multicultural and Population Research, I was pleased to sign a commission for Michael, Sandra Kipp and Anne Pauwels to undertake a census-based review of *Immigration and Australia's Language Resources*. A volume with this title, written by these three authors, was published in 1995 through AGPS. The study was scholarly, professional and of great importance. As I noted in the Foreword: 'Language Diversity is one of the most notable consequences of Australia's immigration program. And one of the purposes [of the book] is to establish the extent and nature of Australia's language diversity. Other aspects, including the number and employment category of those using a language other than English, are also dealt with in the work.' *Immigration and Australia's Language Resources* was such an important book that, ten years later, VITS Language Link commissioned Michael as an adviser to assist with a current census application of the theme to current day Victoria. And one of the comments of the work formed the concept behind a second, related commission from the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements, namely: 'Australia should also reap the economic benefits of the enormous range of linguistic resources it possesses'. The new review, in which Michael's sage advice will also be sought, seeks to explore scope for capitalising economically on Victoria's exciting resources of language variety. While I was Director of CEDA, Michael also contributed most usefully to a CEDA, State Government funded book, published by Allen and Unwin in 2001, entitled *Building a New Community: Immigration and the Victorian Community*, edited by Professor Andrew Markus, with whom Michael wrote Chapter 4, 'Attitudes Towards Immigration and Multiculturalism'. The Premier of Victoria, the Hon Steve Bracks, wrote the Foreword. My personal experience of Michael has always been pleasant—he is a man of the utmost integrity; extremely well read and articulate, humorous and perceptive; excellent company and in general as fine a professor as can be found anywhere. He still has many years of contributions to scholarship and society in him, and, while honouring Michael's past work, I look forward also to the next achievements in his distinguished course through life.

John Nieuwenhuysen (Monash University)

MANFRED PIENEMANN

Michael Clyne has been a constant point of reference throughout my career, both intellectually and at a personal level.

When I first met Michael around 1975 he had already established many key concepts in research on bilingualism and sociolinguistics. At the time second language acquisition research was a very young discipline, and it readily took up some of Michael's conceptualisations. One key example is the notion that adult second language acquisition may be a case of pidginisation. The Heidelberg Project 'Pidgin German' even carried this idea in its project title. And this concept later stimulated a whole line of research in SLA.

Michael's work has had a highly integrative effect on work in bilingualism and related fields such as SLA. I witnessed this in Scandinavia in the seventies as much as in Australia in the eighties and nineties. For instance, his studies of bilingual programs integrated an SLA perspective and thus kept bilingual education on the agenda of SLA research.

I am particularly grateful for Michael's enormous impact on language policy in Australia which resulted in the formation of the National Languages and Literacy Institute of Australia, which was based to a large extent on the wide scope of Michael's research, its high standing and intellectual recognition. The NLLIA provided a strong platform for research on SLA and bilingualism and thus created an infrastructure for top-notch research. Michael's integrative role was crucial to the enormous success of this complex undertaking, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for that.

Michael's recent work underlines yet again the integrative nature of his thinking. It utilises the knowledge created in many disciplines for an account of bilingualism in society and the individual, including the role of second language acquisition and its psycholinguistic basis.

I am confident that Michael will continue to have an impact on the field well beyond this formal date that relates primarily to the contractual framework of a professor's obligations. I wish him well!

Manfred Pienemann (University of Paderborn)

ANGELIKA REDDER

Lieber Michael,

viele Handlungsaspekte sind es, die mich mit Dir verbinden—einige seien als Momentaufnahmen angesprochen:

- Gespräche über Angewandte Linguistik und Sprachsoziologie im Wuppertaler Zoo,
- Überlegungen zu sprachlichen Modalitäten im Umfeld unserer Forschungen,
- methodologische Diskussionen zum Stellenwert empirischer Forschung einschließlich der mühsamen Transkriptionsarbeit,
- geteilte Faszination am Deutschen im Konzert eines mehrsprachigen und multikulturellen Europa, als ich Dir in der Siemens-Stiftung und im Beisein unseres Rektors als Dekanin den Ehrendokortitel der Fakultät für Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaften an der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in München überreichen durfte,
- eine von Herzen gern gehaltene Lobesrede (aus Anlaß der Grimm-Preisverleihung durch den DAAD) zu Deinen vielsprachigen plurizentrischen Forschungen und sprachpolitischen Engagements,
- Kommunikation im Speiserestaurant (mit einem der 1972er Autoren dazu und vor allem mit Irene),
- und nunmehr Anregungen aus Deinen Analysen für meine neue Tätigkeit in Sachen ‘multilingualism at the working place’ an der Universität Hamburg, wo wir Dich nicht nur im SFB ‘Mehrsprachigkeit’ und im soeben gegründeten Zentrum für Sprachwissenschaft gern jederzeit empfangen!

Ich bin sicher, daß die formelle Entbindung von Verpflichtungen an der Universität, die als wissenschaftliche Institution bekanntlich ambivalente Reformstrukturen in sich birgt, nicht bedeutet, daß wir von Dir weniger hören, daß wir nicht mehr regelmäßig—z.B. In Mannheim—miteinander diskutieren können, im Gegenteil: Ich freue mich auf Dein kommendes freieres Wissenschaftlerleben und wünsche Dir und Deiner Familie dazu alles Gute!

Herzlich,

Angelika Redder (University of Hamburg)

PATRICK STEVENSON

Dear Michael,

I am delighted to have the opportunity to record my gratitude to you and my appreciation of your influence on my career, and to add my own modest tribute to the no doubt substantial collection you will be receiving. I won't attempt to reflect on the entire span of your research on language and linguistics, as I'm sure others who are better placed than me will do this. I won't even try to assess in detail the importance of your impact on my own particular area of interest (the sociolinguistics of contemporary German), as this would require a book in itself! However, I think I can say without fear of contradiction that this field of study would have remained a very parochial affair, more or less confined to the domain of German and Austrian journals and monographs, had it not been for your interventions 'from the outside' (as German academics like to say). Everyone in this field knows that your work both brought the research of German and Austrian sociolinguists to the attention of a global audience and encouraged these same linguists to take on board in their own work ideas and approaches that might otherwise have been ignored.

If it's not too self-indulgent, I'd also like to offer a more personal perspective on the impact of your research on my own development as an academic. Of course, I've been influenced by many scholars and owe a general debt to all those (socio)linguists who have informed my own work and given me the desire to learn. But what I have always found particularly inspiring about your work is your willingness and ability to ask really fundamental questions about what Hartung and others call 'die Gesellschaftlichkeit der Sprache' and at the same time to discuss them in a way that is both rigorous/challenging and accessible. And your enthusiasm for all aspects of the social uses of language really appears to be boundless. I will never forget sitting in front of you on the mystery coach tour organised by Peter Nelde during his anniversary conference in Brussels in 1997, eavesdropping on your conversation with a young Scandinavian linguist: most of us were pretty drained by that point and chatting idly about life, but you were clearly engrossed in the research of your neighbour and maintained a detailed interrogation of him throughout the journey!

Actually, one of your most widely read and influential books almost put an end to my career before it had got off the ground. In the early 1980s, Stephen Barbour and I were working on what for both of us was to be our first major publication and we approached CUP to see whether they might be interested in publishing it. We hadn't yet completed the manuscript but we had devoted a considerable amount of time and effort to it, and so you can imagine how we felt when we got a message from Peter Trudgill saying 'did you know that Michael Clyne has just finished a book on more or less the same topic? It's due out next year—with CUP.' Well, next year was 1984 and the book was *Language and Society in the German-speaking World*, which must have sold thousands of copies and was clearly so successful that you were able to publish a revised second edition under the new title of *The German Language in a Changing Europe* 11 years later—pretty remarkable for a book on German in English. (We recovered from our shock, of course, and eventually managed to finish our book, which was very different from yours but benefited both from the influence of your approach and from the market that your book had created—and we particularly prized the generous and flattering review that you subsequently wrote.)

Since that time I have obviously continued to benefit from the insights of your research, and I have often had reason to be grateful for the attention you have paid to my own work. In the precarious world of academic life, we are heavily dependent on the good will and support of other colleagues, and I am particularly pleased to be able to express my gratitude to you here for all the references that you have apparently been so willing to provide and which have helped me to secure a series of research grants and promotions. Thank you so much Michael, for everything you have done for me and for your monumental contribution to the field of sociolinguistics, which you have done so much to shape and promote. I hope you enjoy the celebrations that your colleagues have planned and wish all the very best for your future.

Patrick Stevenson (University of Southampton)

ROY SUSSEX

I first met Michael Clyne in 1974, when I came back to Australia after an absence of 18 years to take up a position in Linguistics at Monash University.

Michael was a member of the German department, but was already well known here and overseas for his ground-breaking work on languages in contact. We found many points of contact: I started work on Russian and Polish in Australia, reading his work with increasing appreciation, and talked often to him about language rights, ethnic radio—ZZZ was just starting then—and about introducing new languages into the secondary school curriculum. Michael was then, as now, indefatigable. We joined forces in the early 1980s, supported by many long midnight telephone conversations about policy and strategy, to promote and assist at the birth of the NLIA, the National Languages Institute of Australia, where Michael's research, his authority, and the strength of his commitment to language rights made him one of the key central players in the making of a new ethos for languages and cultures in Australia—an ethos for which Australia enjoyed international acclaim for more than a decade.

Michael's personal modesty is matched by the incisiveness of his ideas, and his extraordinary energy and productivity. There are few linguists worldwide who have written so much, over such an extended period, with such sustained quality and originality. His work is recognized by a long series of national and international awards and prizes. He has been the clear leader in making Australia known for its work on languages in contact, and for his steady and inflexible commitment to human rights in language and culture.

In my professional life I have got to know some clever people, and some of genuine moral standing and personal warmth. I have not known anyone who combined these qualities as excellently as Michael Clyne.

Roly Sussex (The University of Queensland)