

2013

Editor's Prologue: Welcome to the 2nd Volume

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Recommended Citation

Koffi, Ettien N. Dr. (2013) "Editor's Prologue: Welcome to the 2nd Volume," *Linguistic Portfolios*: Vol. 2, Article 1.

Available at: http://repository.stcloudstate.edu/stcloud_ling/vol2/iss1/1

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EDITOR'S PROLOGUE WELCOME TO THE 2ND VOLUME

Linguistic Portfolios, hereafter *LP*, has received the official imprimatur of the English Department by way of faculty vote. It has also received the imprimatur of the dean's office, and the provost's office by way of congratulatory e-mails that I received after Volume 1 appeared in summer 2012. I started *LP* because I found that some student papers were innovative and academically sound. Yet, semester after semester these good papers were thrown into the wastebasket after the grades had been assigned. What a waste of productivity and creativity! I decided to do something about this wasteful academic behavior by creating a journal where students' best papers could be published. *LP* is starting its second year with great momentum. The first volume is now available online and readers from all over the world are reading articles published in it. Just three days after *LP* went online, 70 people downloaded articles from it. I would like to thank Interim Dean, Prof. Keith Edwin of Learning Resource Services for his tireless efforts to get *LP* on the Saint Cloud State University's Repository. Published articles can now be accessed at: [HTTP://REPOSITORY.STCLOUDSTATE.EDU/STCLOUD_LING/](http://REPOSITORY.STCLOUDSTATE.EDU/STCLOUD_LING/).

The above-mentioned developments are both scary and exciting for the students who publish in *LP* and for me. The scary part for students is that their papers are now open to worldwide scrutiny. The exciting part for them is that once their papers are published, they join the worldwide fraternity/sorority of scholars. The scary part for me is that I'm putting my "reputation" on the line. I can let this fear paralyze me into inaction, but I will not! The prospect of mentoring the next generation of linguists has helped me to overcome my fears. I launch Volume II with these mixed emotions battling inside of me. Fortunately, I do not shoulder this awesome responsibility alone. For this volume, I have received tremendous help from Ms. Kristen Lorincz and Ms. Rebekah Gordon, my very competent and dedicated associate editors. They are graduate students in the MA TESL/Applied Linguistics program. They are also outstanding student-scholars. They co-authored a paper in Volume 1, and their articles appear again in this volume. Join me in congratulating them for their pro-bono efforts on behalf of *LP*.

Greater diversity of student scholarship is the goal of *LP*. For this reason, I'm extending an invitation to faculty who teach linguistics or linguistics-related courses in colleges and universities throughout the state of Minnesota to recommend their students' best papers for publication in *LP*. The publication criterion is simple and straightforward, namely, for a paper to be published in *LP*, it must be recommended by the faculty member who taught the course or who supervised the research. Both the student-author(s) and the faculty are acknowledged at the bottom of the article. The author(s) write a short biographical statement about themselves. They also provide the recommending faculty's name and e-mail address. The editorial staff contacts the faculty member to verify that he/she stands behind the recommendation. The authors of the published articles retain full copyrights of their publication. All *LP* is asking for is the chance to be the conduit for the next big revolution in linguistics!

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