Editorial Board

Janet Bavelas
University of Victoria, Vancouver

Justine Cassell
MIT, Cambridge

Jacques Cosnier
Université de Lyon

Susan Goldin-Meadow
University of Chicago

Charles Goodwin
University of California, Los Angeles

Marianne Gullberg
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen

Uri Hadar
Tel Aviv University

C. Christian Heath
Kings College, University of London

Sotaro Kita
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen

Reinhard Krüger
Technical University Berlin

Scott Liddell
Gallaudet University

David McNeill
University of Chicago

Isabella Poggi
University of Rome Three

Roland Posner
Technical University Berlin

Francis Quek
Wright State University

Monica Rector
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Herman Roodenburg
Meertens Institute, Amsterdam

Eli Rozik-Rosen
Tel Aviv University

Serge Santi
Université de Provence

Jürgen Streeck
University of Texas at Austin

Eve Sweetser
University of California, Berkeley

Michael Tomasello
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig

Sherman Wilcox
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

Katherine Young
University of California, Berkeley

Table of contents

Articles

An experimental study of when and how speakers use gestures to communicate
Janet Bavelas, Christine Kenwood, Trudy Johnson and Bruce Phillips

A body and its gestures
Jürgen Streeck

The dream body in somatic psychology: The kinaesthetics of gesture
Katharine Young

Symbolic gestures: The case of the Italian gestionary
Isabella Poggi

The nature, morphology and functions of gestures, manners and postures as documented by creative literature
Fernando Poyatos

Book Reviews

Margreth Egidi, Oliver Schneider, Matthias Schöning, Irene Schütze and Caroline Torra-Mattenklott (Eds.): Gestiik: Figuren des Körpers in Text und Bild. Reviewed by Herman Roodenburg

Krüger, Reinhard (Ed.): Herrmann Urteil, Ludwig Flachskampf & Mario Wandruszka: Drei Studien zur Körpersprache der Romanen. Reviewed by Ulrike Bohle

The International Society for Gesture Studies

A brief history of the origins of The International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS)
Cornelia Müller
An experimental study of when and how speakers use gestures to communicate

Janet Bavelas, Christine Kenwood, Trudy Johnson
and Bruce Phillips
University of Victoria

This experiment expanded the visual availability paradigm by subsuming it under the broader principle of recipient design. We varied recipient design by asking speakers to describe a picture to someone who would see a videotape of their description or only hear an audiotape. Second, speakers described pictures that varied in verbal encodability. Finally, in addition to gestural rate, we analysed the redundancy of gestures with words. The results ($N = 40$) confirmed our predictions that speakers gesture at a higher rate and use a higher proportion of nonredundant gestures when their recipient would see their videotape; that they also use more nonredundant gestures when describing a picture for which they have a poor vocabulary; and that these two factors interact to produce the strongest effects when vocabulary is limited and the recipient would see the videotape. These effects support the hypothesis that speakers design their gestures to communicate to recipients.

Keywords: gestures, communication, speaker, encoding, recipient design

The recent controversy over whether gestures are communicative (e.g., Kendon, 1994; Krauss, Morrel-Samuels, & Colasante, 1991; Krauss, Chen, & Chawla, 1996) has had the healthy effect of questioning some taken-for-granted assumptions and of introducing new data and methods into the field. We are among those who propose a significant communicative role for gestures, and the present article is the first in a program of research that has the general goal of seeking appropriate experimental evidence for this communicative role and the specific goal of testing hypotheses about when and how gestures communicate.

With the revival of interest in the topic, some limitations of the available data have become apparent, and these have shaped our research designs. The