**Ordinary Member**

*Linda McLoughlin, Principal Lecturer, English Department, Liverpool Hope University, UK*

I’ve been an avid participant at IGALA conferences since IGALA 2, (2002) held at Lancaster and have benefited greatly from the friendly and supportive environment this network provides. I would like to give something back by becoming more actively involved in the association as an Ordinary Member. I served as secretary of the British Association for Applied Linguistics’ (BAAL) Special Interest Group (SIG) on Language, Gender and Sexuality 2014-2018 and have experience of supporting research networks and organising events. I am a panel member of Advance HE’s Athena Swan Charter and committed to advancing gender equality in academia. I wholeheartedly endorse the aims of IGALA and having read the role specification for Ordinary member, I am keen to take on any responsibilities the Association considers best match my strengths.

I’m a regular reader of *Gender and Language* since its inception as it keeps me updated on current research and debates. The journal accepted and published an article based on my PhD thesis in 2008 ‘The construction of female sexuality in the ‘sex special’: Transgression or containment in magazines’ information on sexuality for girls?’. The support offered by the editorial team nurtured my early research and contributed to my career development. My most recent publication, *A Critical Discourse Analysis of South Asian Women’s Magazines (*2017) includes research carried out with the co-operation of women’s networks in Lancashire, UK and Bangalore, India. I have talked about my research on BBC radio Manchester and Lancashire and have carried out dissemination workshops in order to raise awareness of gender, sexuality and language issues to the wider world. As an elected member, I would work hard with colleagues to innovate and promote the aims of the association across academic networks and external agencies. A key motivator in putting myself forward for this role is to foster a supportive and nurturing environment for early career academics who face considerable challenges in the current ‘gig economy’ of HE.

Linda McLoughlin, October 2018