# CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION

MICHAEL ADAMS AND ANNE CURZAN  

## PART I. AMERICAN DIALECTS

1. Michigander Talk: God’s Own English  
   DENNIS R. PRESTON  
   17

2. The African American English Canon in Sociolinguistics  
   WALT WOLFRAM  
   34

3. The Beholder’s Eye: Using Self-Organizing Maps to Understand American Dialects  
   WILLIAM A. KRETZSCHMAR, JR.  
   53

Response:

4. To Continue Moving Forward in English Language and Linguistics Research in the Twenty-First Century  
   SONJA J. LANEHART  
   71

## PART II. HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

   LYNDA MUGGLESTONE  
   87

6. The Etymology of the Word Wife  
   ANATOLY LIBERMAN  
   108

7. English into Asia: From Singaporean Ubiquity to Chinese Learners’ Features  
   EDGAR W. SCHNEIDER  
   135

Response:

8. History of the English Language in the English Department: Past and Present  
   COLETTE MOORE  
   157