

Preface

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/ds.12.00pre>

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**The Promise of Dialogue: The dialogic turn in the
production and communication of knowledge**

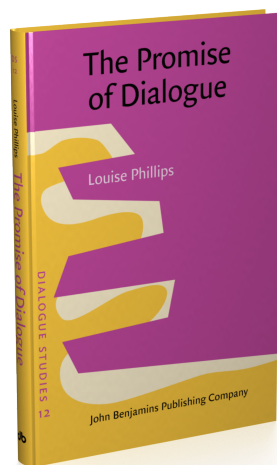
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[*Dialogue Studies*, 12] 2011. x, 198 pp.

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Preface

A lot of people have helped me to write this book and to all of them I would like to express my gratitude.

I would like to thank everyone who has commented on drafts. Most of them are colleagues with whom I have worked in a range of academic communities. Some of them are members of several of those communities and so have come to read several drafts in those different contexts!

Ursula Plesner, Christina Hee Pedersen, Marianne Kristiansen, Birgitte Ravn Olesen, Mercy Kamara and Sanne Knudsen provided detailed, extremely constructive feedback and encouragement and support within the research group on research communication, a subgroup of the research group on communication and knowledge production in the Department of Communication, Business and Information Technologies, Roskilde University. And in the NordForsk network for the Study of the Dialogic Communication of Research, Jørgen Bloch-Poulsen, Christina Hee Pedersen, Mercy Kamara, Sanne Knudsen, Marianne Kristiansen, Ursula Plesner and Birgitte Ravn Olesen gave me helpful comments on various drafts.

In the research team of the project “Sense-making strategies and user-driven innovation in virtual worlds: new market dynamics, social and cultural innovation, and knowledge construction”, Lisbeth Frølund, Ates Gursimsek, Ursula Plesner, CarrieLynn Reinhard, Sisse Siggaard Jensen (research project leader) and Dixi Louise Strand (project manager), provided useful, and well-qualified feedback on the chapter which uses the virtual worlds project as a case-study of collaborative research (Chapter 5). They also suggested that I shorten my sentences, the previous sentence being an example of how I haven’t always been able to do what they said!

Marianne Winther Jørgensen with whom I have written two books on discourse analysis, also played an important role in the writing of this book, giving me careful and insightful comments on several chapters. The American scholar of dialogic communication, Ken Cissna, with whom I taught a doctoral course in Spring 2010, gave me valuable comments on two of the chapters. My fellow co-founder of the ECREA Section on Science and Environment Communication, Anabela Carvahlo, commented expertly on the case-study on public engagement with science and technology (Chapter 4). So too did Annika Agger, Erling Jelsøe

and Birgit Jæger, colleagues in two other departments at Roskilde University, with whom I collaborated in the Chapter 4 case-study.

My mother, Flora, and my brother, Stephen, tried to correct the instances of Viking English. Still, it's likely that traces can be found in the text, and that's okay, I think, given my argument in the book for the value of dialogic encounters with difference!

Not least, I would like to thank my husband, Henrik, for his comments on this book and for everything!

A special kind of contribution to my book has been made by my two sons, Alexander and Nicklas, who make me happy every single day.

With this long list of names, it is obvious that I am indebted to a lot of people who have supported the writing of this book. Thank you again to all of you!

I would also very much have liked to have named my father, Alfred Phillips, who died in November 2009, as one of the people who commented on drafts. His astute comments undoubtedly would have made it a better book. And I would so have liked him to have been able to read the published book. Together with my mother and Henrik, he gave me the priceless gift of constant, unconditional, selfless and extremely well-qualified support. He was a truly great human being and the biggest inspiration to me.

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