

## Conclusion

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Reading the contributions to this forum, we were struck by the diversity of subject matter presented by Professor Beebe's students, both past and present, as well as the eclectic approaches to discourse she has encouraged. Her students' work is a testament to the depth and breadth of her knowledge. A reoccurring theme in this festschrift was Professor Beebe's role as advisor, mentor, and friend. She has achieved the sometimes difficult balance between pursuing her own work and supporting her students. As one student wrote, "Leslie has served as our intellectual mother." We have all experienced Leslie's passion for her work as well as her compassion for her students as human beings. In fact, she has served as a role model for all of us, reminding us that it is possible to insist on first-rate scholarship while also finding delight outside of academia.

We are grateful to Leslie for the joy and brilliance with which she approaches our field. Her method of closely reading data, meticulous writing and editing, and rigorous examination of the theories underpinning discourse analysis will stay with us throughout our careers. Through Leslie, we have learned to "find the gap" in the literature that will lead us to choosing a topic for research, to "hang out with the data" as we engage in analysis, and to "tell the story" as we summarize our findings.

This festschrift is a small token of our gratitude for having had the opportunity to know and work with such an amazing scholar and person. It is also an expression of our bittersweet happiness as we wish Leslie well in all she will embrace in the years to come.

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