Speaker:  
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Title:  
Anecdote, attitude and evidence. Does English disadvantage EAL authors in international publishing?

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Abstract:  
One ‘face of English’, or Englishes, is that used to publish in international journals. Indeed, writing in English is now more than a choice of language; with globalization and growing managerialism in Higher Education, it has come to designate research of a high quality worthy of a place in peer-reviewed journals. Accompanying this dominance of English, however, are questions of communicative inequality and the possible disadvantages or even prejudice inflicted on non-Anglophone academics. In this paper I critically examine the evidence for linguistic disadvantage by a review of global publishing patterns, author attitudes, case studies and research into linguistic advantage together with my own interviews with EAL scholars in HK and analysis of journal peer reviews. I show that while there is plenty of anecdotal evidence for disadvantage, framing this in terms of a coarse native/non-native distinction has serious problems and may serve to discourage non-Anglophone authors and perpetuate a deficit view of their writing. The disciplinary conventions of disciplinary writing in English make serious demands on all academic writers, but these are less important than a lack of resources and research writing expertise. So while a hindering factor in getting published, language is not a terminally decisive one.

Bio Statement:  
Ken Hyland is Professor of Applied Linguistics and Director of the Centre for Applied English Studies at the University of Hong Kong. He was previously a professor at the Institute of Education, University of London and has taught in Africa, Asia and Europe. He is best known for his research into writing and academic discourse, having published...
over 190 articles and 20 books on these topics. His most recent books include *Academic Publishing* (Oxford University Press, 2015), *Disciplinary Identity* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), and *Innovation and Change in English Language Education* (Routledge, 2013). He was founding co-editor of the *Journal of English for Academic Purposes* and was co-editor of *Applied Linguistics*. 