

Biography (short)

Janet Holmes was born in Formby, Lancashire and graduated from Leeds University after specialising in Linguistics. She moved to an academic position at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand in 1970. After a long and varied career, including periods as Head of School, Dean of Languages and Literature, and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, she is now Emeritus Professor of Linguistics at Victoria University where she continues to undertake research on workplace discourse and language and gender. She is Associate Director of the Wellington Language in the Workplace project (see www.victoria.ac.nz/lwp/) and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. She has written or edited more than twenty books including *Gendered Talk at Work*, *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, now in its fifth edition, *Research Methods in Sociolinguistics* (co-edited with Kirk Hazen), and the Blackwell *Handbook of Language, Gender and Sexuality* (co-edited with Miriam Meyerhoff and Susan Ehrlich). With her colleagues in the Language in the Workplace project (LWP), she has also published on leadership discourse, humour, and the relevance of gender and ethnicity in the workplace. Together with Meredith Marra and Bernadette Vine, she has authored a book *Leadership, Discourse and Ethnicity* (OUP), which examines effective leadership in Māori and Pākehā organisations. With her research team, she is currently investigating the discourse of those involved in the tourism industry and analysing the language used in eldercare facilities in order to assist those seeking work in these areas.