

A Note from the Editors

The 6th GASLA Conference was a unique event for the fields of language acquisition in general and second language acquisition in particular. The theme of the Conference—“Links to Allied Disciplines”—allowed us to bring together scholars working not only in the field of second language acquisition, but also in the areas of linguistic theory, first language acquisition, language processing and language impairment. These scholars came from four continents and many different countries; that colleagues from universities around the globe were present made it possible to meet and discuss plans for continuing work on existing collaborative research projects and for establishing new ones. One of the most valuable outcomes of the Conference was the large and enthusiastic participation of young scholars and graduate students from both Canada and abroad.

This volume contains 39 of the 53 papers and posters that were read and presented at GASLA-6, including the plenary talk given by Lisa Travis. This was the first of the GASLA conferences at which posters were included, and we are pleased to report that poster sessions were extremely successful both in terms of quality and the discussion they generated.

We would like to take this opportunity to put on record our thanks to all of the people and organizations that contributed to the success of the Conference and helped to make it possible.

We are grateful to the institutions that provided funding, including the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC); the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ottawa; the University Research Fund of the University of Ottawa; the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of Carleton University; the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies of Carleton University and the Office of the Vice-President of Research of Carleton University.

We would also like to thank all the abstract reviewers: Professors Joyce Bruhn de Garavito, José Camacho, Susanne Carroll, Harald Clahsen, Suzanne Flynn, John Grinstead, Roger Hawkins, Belma Haznedar, Julia Herschensohn, Alan Juffs, Usha Lakshmanan, Donna Lardiere, Conxita Lleó, Gita Martohardjono, Jürgen Meisel, Silvina Montrul, Natascha Müller, Johanne Paradis, Teresa Parodi, Ana-Teresa Perez-Leroux, Philippe Prévost, Bill Rutherford, Liliana Sánchez, Bonnie Schwartz, Mike Sharwood-Smith, Roumyana Slabakova, Antonella Sorace, Rex Sprouse, Margaret Thomas, Lydia White, Martha Young-Sholten, Boping Yuan and María Luisa Zubizarreta.

We would like express our gratitude to the faculty and staff, graduate research assistants and volunteers from the Department of Modern Languages and the Department of Linguistics at the University of Ottawa and from the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at Carleton University; the administrative personnel from the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures; the manager and staff of the Residence and Conference Centre of the University of Ottawa; and the personnel from the Audio-Visual Services of the University of Ottawa.

We would like to convey our sincere thanks to Raquel Fernández Fuertes, the post-doctoral researcher who took charge of coordinating the many activities involved in the organization of the Conference and who also made sure that all of the participants were taken care of; and to Kenton Todd Spradlin, our doctoral student, who helped us from day one by creating and maintaining our successful web page, by producing our conference program, and by taking care of many of the details of the Conference.

Finally, thanks to Michael Berstein of Cascadilla Press for all of his assistance, and to Todd Spradlin who continues to collaborate with us and who was instrumental in editing this volume. Thank you very much Todd!

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