

Introduction

**Melissa Bowles¹, Rebecca Foote², Silvia Perpiñán¹,
and Rakesh Bhatt¹**

¹University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and ²Michigan State University

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was privileged to host the 30th annual Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) from October 11-14, 2007. As a prominent international forum for the presentation of cutting-edge research in the field of second language acquisition (SLA), the 2007 SLRF marks the thirtieth year that the conference has been a primary venue for both established and up-and-coming scholars to share work on a wide variety of theoretical and empirical issues in SLA, reporting on research conducted in a range of settings and contexts. SLRF 2007 brought together approximately 400 researchers in SLA from the United States, Canada, and from many other countries including Belgium, Germany, Israel, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. Plenary speakers Gabriele Kasper (University of Hawai'i at Manoa), Silvina Montrul (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), James Purpura (Teachers College, Columbia University) and Lydia White (McGill University) brought their expertise in diverse areas of SLA research to give talks centered on cognition in second language interaction, the nature of heritage language acquisition, the challenges of assessing outcomes of language learning, and the interfaces of components of interlanguage grammars. In addition to the plenary talks, there were 100 paper presentations and 16 poster presentations, along with a workshop on conversation analysis and SLA, and separate colloquia on the interlanguage systems of heritage speakers and on recent trends in generative L2 acquisition.

The 19 peer-reviewed papers included in the *Selected Proceedings of the 2007 Second Language Research Forum* reflect both the cutting-edge nature and the diverse areas of interest encompassed by SLRF itself, with research from various theoretical perspectives and empirical contexts represented. The volume is divided into six sections, each representing a different thematic area. Specifically, the first section contains two papers (Judy, Guijarro-Fuentes, and Rothman; Tanner) on L2 morphosyntax with a focus on the nominal domain, whereas the second section contains five papers on L2 morphosyntax with a scope that extends beyond the nominal and into the sentential domain (Slabakova and Gajdos; Muntendam; Dekydtspotter and Lorente Lapole; Geeslin and Gudmestad; Kim). The third section includes four papers investigating the acquisition of L2 pragmatics (Lee; Bardovi-Harlig, Rose, and Nickels; Miyamoto Caltabiano; Sykes and Cohen). The fourth section of the proceedings consists of three papers that focus on L2 phonology (Tremblay; Darcy; Baker). Following the papers on L2 phonology is section five, which contains two papers on awareness in SLA (Yoshida; Martínez-Fernández). The volume's last two sections are devoted to papers that came from special colloquia and workshops held during SLRF 2007. First, Taleghani-Nikazm's paper on the use of gesture in foreign language classrooms stands by itself in section six, as a representation of the conference's workshop on conversation analysis and SLA. The final section of the volume includes two papers on heritage language acquisition (Suh; Montrul and Bowles) from the conference's colloquium on this unique and challenging population of language learners.

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