

Preface

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The 27th annual West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics was held May 16 – 18, 2008 at the University of California, Los Angeles. Over 350 abstracts were received, and the papers presented here represent 52 of the 59 talks given at the conference. Conference participants attended plenary addresses given by Hagit Borer, Elliott Moreton, and Liina Pytkäinen, and this volume includes the paper corresponding to the plenary address given by Elliott Moreton. Nine of the papers presented in this volume correspond to talks given during the two special sessions that were organized: *Experimental Syntax, Semantics and Pragmatics* and *Explaining Phonological Typology: Channel or Analytic Bias?* Additionally, readers are invited to visit the online publication site of the UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics (<http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/faciliti/wpl/>), where the papers corresponding to the poster session hosted Saturday afternoon have been published.

We wish to thank the Organizing Committee, which included Byron Ahn, Robyn Orfitelli, Ben Jones, Kevin Ryan, Craig Sailor, Anne Shisko, Victoria Thatte, and Chad Vicenik, who were responsible for organizing and managing every aspect of the conference, as well as the faculty members who served as advisors to the committee, Bruce Hayes, Hilda Koopman, and Carson Schütze. Though an exhaustive list would exceed the space allotted, we also wish to extend our gratitude to the 200 reviewers for all of their work in helping us to develop such an outstanding program of talks, the session chairs who kept everything running smoothly and on schedule, and the remaining members of the UCLA Department of Linguistics—undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty—, who graciously donated their weekend to fill in as needed.

Finally, the conference would not have been possible without the generous financial support we received from the following organizations: the UCLA Division of Humanities, Professor Craig Melchert, the A. Richard Diebold Foundation, and the UCLA Graduate Student Association.

Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics

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Cascadilla Proceedings Project Somerville, MA 2008

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ISBN 978-1-57473-428-7 library binding

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This paper can be cited as:

Abner, Natasha and Jason Bishop. 2008. Preface. In *Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Natasha Abner and Jason Bishop, vii. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.

or:

Abner, Natasha and Jason Bishop. 2008. Preface. In *Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Natasha Abner and Jason Bishop, vii. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
www.lingref.com, document #1810.