

# **Studies in Language Sciences (2)**

**Papers from the Second Annual Conference of  
the Japanese Society for Language Sciences**

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## A Note from the Editors

This is the second volume of *Studies in Language Sciences*, the publication of the Japanese Society for Language Sciences (<http://jchat.sccs.chukyo-u.ac.jp/JSLS/>). The volume consists of papers from the second annual conference of the society that was held on August 4 and 5, 2000 in Kyoto. This second volume of the society includes Michael Tomasello's plenary, the papers from the invited symposium on pragmatic development with a discussant's commentary, and the papers from the general session. It includes seventeen full-length papers and a commentary.

In this note, we briefly describe the editorial process for the second volume of *Studies in Language Sciences*. In editing this volume, as in our inaugural volume, we tried to ensure a high quality for the papers, and all the papers from the general sessions were sent out to outside experts for review. We sought reviewers who we thought best qualified to review each paper regardless of their affiliation or nationality. This resulted in an impressive list of reviewers from the United States (16), Japan (10), Canada (3), Germany (1), UK (1), and Israel (1). For papers written in English about the Japanese language, we tried to choose at least one reviewer who does not know Japanese, as well as one who understands Japanese. This is because papers written in English should be written in such a way that researchers with little knowledge of Japanese can easily understand them. We believe the list of the reviewers' names reflects our commitment to the quality of the volume as well as to the promotion of our annual conference as an international and interdisciplinary forum for academic exchange. We would like to thank the following referees for writing extensive and thoughtful comments, which contributed to the quality of the final product tremendously. (The discrepancy with the above numbers is only because some of the reviewers have not replied to our message in which we asked for permission to have their names listed in the volume.)

Mira Ariel, Jean Berko Gleason, David Birdsong, Florian Coulmas, Susan Ervin-Tripp, James Flege, Fred Genesee, Peter Gordon, Dawn MacLaughlin, Brian MacWhinney, Peter Master, Naomi McGloin, Kevin Ezra Moore, Hitoshi Muranoi, Masuhiro Nomura, Shigeko Okamoto, Tsuyoshi Ono, Yuriko Oshima-Takane, Yoshinori Sasaki, Satomi Takahashi, Hiroko Tanaka, Yasushi Terao, Anne Vainikka, Emiko Yukawa

Most papers required two rounds of revisions, first a major one based on the referees' and the editors' comments, and then a minor revision before publication. In many cases, we did not send out the revised version to the outside experts -- mainly due to time constraints. Thirteen papers from the

general session (including alternates) were submitted for publication, of which 12 are included in this volume. The review of the invited papers was done by the editors, though we asked outside experts for help when needed.

It was our goal as editors to produce a high quality volume to which researchers in various fields of language sciences would wish to submit their papers, and we followed a standard review procedure that is commonly used by international refereed journals. This has been quite demanding for both editors and authors, and we expect to make some changes in the editorial process of the conference proceedings in future. We believe, however, we have achieved the initial goal of setting a high standard, which is important for a new academic society like ours. We welcome suggestions from readers, JSLS members, authors and referees so that we can create a volume that is truly valuable for language researchers not only of Japan but also for the international scientific community. Finally we would like to thank contributors for their quick response at various stages of producing this volume, and Kurosio publishers for undertaking the publication of this volume.

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Harumi Kobayashi  
Susanne Miyata  
Keiko Nakamura  
Tamiko Ogura  
Hidetosi Sirai