Studies in Language Sciences 8

Papers from the Eighth Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for Language Sciences

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Notes From the Editors

This is the eighth volume of Studies in Language Sciences (SLS 8), a publication of the Japanese Society for Language Sciences (JSLS, http:// aimee.gsid.nagoya-u.ac.jp/JSLS/). The volume consists of selected papers that were originally presented at the Eighth Annual JSLS Conference held at International Christian University on June 10-11, 2006, organized by the program chairs, Suzanne Quay (International Christian University) and Yutaka Sato (International Christian University). It also includes three plenary lectures by Florian Coulmas (German Institute for Japanese Studies), Fred Genesee (McGill University), and Haruo Kubozono (Kobe University), and an invited symposium paper by Koji Fujita (Kyoto University). The JSLS was born from a first language acquisition community in Japan, and now it covers a wide range of language-related fields such as first- and second-language acquisition, linguistics, psychology, education, speech communication, and computational models of language learning/processing. By promoting interdisciplinary research incorporating various approaches in language sciences, we hope to increase our knowledge of human language and cognitive processes underlying it, and apply the knowledge to such practical matters as language teaching and software development.

In response to an increasing number of outstanding submissions, the oral presentation sessions were held in parallel and a poster session was included. However, only oral presenters were invited to submit their papers to SLS 8. Our primary goal in editing SLS 8, as with the previous volumes, was to select and publish work of the highest quality. In accordance with standard procedures for most scholarly journals, our editorial policy employed blind reviews by outside experts in the authors' fields of inquiry so that all the work published will meet the standard of each discipline. The selection of the reviewers was in accordance with one of the main objectives of the JSLS: to establish a truly international English and Japanese bilingual forum. The list of distinguished scholars from Japan and overseas who reviewed the papers for SLS 8 testifies to the successful accomplishment of our goal. We certainly could not have completed this volume without their contribution. We would like to thank the following individuals for their extensive and thoughtful reviews:

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