

Studies in Language Sciences 9

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

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Notes From the Editors

This is the ninth volume of Studies in Language Sciences (SLS 9), 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 Ninth Annual JSLs Conference held at Miyagi Gakuin Women's University on June 7-8, 2007, organized by the program chairs, Noriaki Yusa (Miyagi Gakuin Women's University) and Hirohide Mori (Nihon University). It also includes a plenary lecture by Yasuhiro Ichida (College, National Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities) and an invited symposium paper by Kazuo Okanoya (Riken Brain Science Institute). 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, oral presentation sessions were held in parallel and a poster session was included in the 2007 conference. However, only oral presenters were invited to submit their papers to SLS 9. Our primary goal in editing SLS 9, as with 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 9 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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