

# North East Linguistics Society

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## Front Matter

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Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society 25

University of Pennsylvania

Volume One:

Papers from the Main Sessions

Edited by

Jill N. Beckman

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PREFACE

The 25th meeting of the North East Linguistic Society was made possible by funds from the Department of Linguistics of the University of Pennsylvania, the School of Arts and Sciences of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Institute for Research in Cognitive Science.

The NELS 25 organizers (Gene Buckley and Sabine Iatridou) would like to express their gratitude to all the Penn students who played an indispensable role in the organization and realization of the conference, and to thank the following linguists for their very valuable contribution in evaluating the abstracts:

Akin Akinlabi	Irene Heim	Jean-François Prunet
Joseph Aoun	Randall Hendrick	Lisa Reed
Diana Archangeli	Hajime Hoji	Keren Rice
J.-Marc Authier	Norbert Hornstein	Yves Roberge
C.L. Baker	C.-T. James Huang	Beatrice Santorini
Mark Baker	Elizabeth Hume	Ken Safir
Aaron Broadwell	Nina Hyams	Mamoru Saito
M. A. Browning	Junko Itô	Leslie Saxon
Luigi Burzio	John T. Jensen	Barry Schein
Lisa Cheng	Ellen Kaisse	Peter Sells
Robin Clark	Michael Kenstowicz	Muffy Siegel
Abigail Cohn	Hilda Koopman	Margaret Speas
Christopher Collins	Anthony Kroch	Dominique Sportiche
Elizabeth Cowper	Howard Lasnik	Donca Steriade
Peter Culicover	Alec Marantz	Tim Stowell
Veneeta Dayal	Diane Massam	Christine Tellier
Viviane Deprez	Robert May	Höskuldur Thráinsson
Molly Diesing	Cecile McKee	Kai von Fintel
Laura Downing	Armin Mester	Thomas Wasow
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Steven Franks	Carole Paradis	Karen Zagana
Eithne Guilfoyle	David Pesetsky	Arnold Zwicky
Sharon Hargus	Paul Portner	
Bruce Hayes	Ljiljana Progovac	

This edition of the Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society compiles in two volumes the papers presented at the 25th Annual Meeting, held at the University of Pennsylvania (October 1994). Included in the second volume are the papers from the workshops on Language Acquisition and Language Change which were held in conjunction with NELS 25.

My thanks to the authors for their timely submissions and willing cooperation in the preparation of this publication. I owe a special debt of gratitude to Jonathan Bobaljik, Kyle Johnson, Tom Maxfield and Jeff Runner for matters of editorial assistance and technical support.

The following authors did not submit papers for publication:

Anton Bures  
Edward Flemming  
Alec Marantz  
Gary Marcus  
Alan Munn

Jill N. Beckman  
Editor  
Amherst, April 1995

**A Brief History of NELS**

John Jensen and Lisa Reed

The North East Linguistic Society, originally known as the New England Linguistic Society, held its first meeting at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) on November 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1970. The original meeting of NELS attracted not only the expected audience from the northeastern United States, but also an unexpectedly large number of participants from eastern Canada. For this reason, at the business meeting of NELS 1, Professor David Lightfoot (at that time a professor of linguistics at McGill University) made the proposal that the conference expand the geographical range of hosting institutions to include eastern Canada. This proposal was immediately accepted and accounts for the change in title of the conference. Since NELS 1 in 1970, NELS has further expanded the geographical pool of its participants, although the traditional geographical base for hosting institutions has remained unchanged. NELS now annually draws speakers and participants from the entire United States, Canada, and Europe. It has been hosted by the following institutions, listed in chronological order:

NELS 1	(1970)	MIT
NELS 2	(1971)	McGill University
NELS 3	(1972)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 4	(1973)	Brown University
NELS 5	(1974)	Harvard University
NELS 6	(1975)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 7	(1976)	MIT
NELS 8	(1977)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 9	(1978)	City University of New York
NELS 10	(1979)	University of Ottawa
NELS 11	(1980)	Cornell University
NELS 12	(1981)	MIT
NELS 13	(1982)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 14	(1983)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 15	(1984)	Brown University
NELS 16	(1985)	McGill University
NELS 17	(1986)	MIT
NELS 18	(1987)	University of Toronto
NELS 19	(1988)	Cornell University
NELS 20	(1989)	University of Pittsburgh
NELS 21	(1990)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 22	(1991)	University of Delaware
NELS 23	(1992)	University of Ottawa
NELS 24	(1993)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 25	(1994)	University of Pennsylvania

NELS has always been and remains the most prestigious conference in theoretical linguistics hosted in its geographical area and it is among the most highly respected in the field at large. (Conferences in theoretical linguistics of comparable quality, hosted in different geographical areas, include the Chicago Linguistics Society, the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), and the Generative Linguists of the Old World (GLOW).) The papers presented at NELS are of a consistently high calibre, not only because of the large number of abstracts received (generally over 200, from which only 15% are selected), but also because of the anonymous reviewing procedure employed (leading figures in the field are asked to conduct the reviewing process). The papers presented at NELS have appeared in published form since NELS 5, and are frequently cited in refereed journals of the field. Since NELS 11, the proceedings have been published by the Graduate Linguistic Student Association at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

From its beginning, NELS has been organized by the Linguistic graduate students association of the hosting institution, although one or two faculty members from the department frequently lend assistance. As a result, every effort is made by the organizing committee to ensure that a significant number of speakers are graduate students. This tradition has been maintained principally because it provides graduate students who are relatively new to the field with a unique opportunity to meet and discuss their work with established researchers from other universities.

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