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Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society 32

**The City University of New York
New York University**

Volume One

**Edited by
Masako Hirotsani**

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PREFACE

NELS 32, the thirty-second annual meeting of the North East Linguistic Society, was co-hosted by the Linguistics Program of The Graduate Center of The City University of New York and the Department of Linguistics of New York University. We extend our thanks to NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science and Dean Richard Foley for financial support. We would also like to thank Chuck Cairns, Executive Officer of the CUNY Linguistics Program, and John Singler and Anna Szabolcsi, previous and current Chairs (resp.) of the NYU Department of Linguistics, as well as the administrative staff at both institutions for their help and support. A special thank you is due to all the students who worked hard to make NELS 32 a reality and a success, under sometimes highly adverse circumstances.

NELS 32 was dedicated to the memory of Ken Hale, who passed away just eleven days before the conference.

We thank the following linguists who reviewed abstracts for us. Their role in making NELS 32 successful cannot be overstated.

David Adger	Stanley Dubinsky	Adivi Lahiri
John Alderete	Sam Epstein	Beth Levin
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Diana Archangeli	Dan Finer	Rochelle Lieber
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Mark Baltin & Marcel den Dikken
Conference Co-Chairs

This edition of the proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society contains papers either presented or selected as alternate presentations at the 32nd Annual Meetings, held at The Graduate Center of The City University of New York and New York University (October 2001). The poster presentations are not included in this volume.

Many thanks go to the authors for submitting their work for publication in a timely manner. The editor is also grateful to the members of the GLSA steering committee, Maria Gouskova, Paula Menéndez-Benito and Uri Strauss for their support in the editorial processes, Paul de Lacy, Angela Carpenter, Makoto Kadowaki, Ji-yung Kim, and Mike Terry for their editorial assistance, and thank you to Kathy and Brendan for their technical help at the last stage of editing.

The following presenters did not submit papers for publication:

Benjamin Bruening
Thomas J. Connors
Richard Kayne
Richard Larson and Miyuki Sawada
Asya Pereltsvaig
Liina Pykkänen
Yael Sharvit
Ivy Sichel
Bert Vaux
John Whitman and Dianne Jonas
Colin Wilson

Masako Hirotoni
Editor
Amherst, February 2002

A Brief History of NELS

by 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 26	(1995)	Harvard University and MIT
NELS 27	(1996)	McGill University
NELS 28	(1997)	University of Toronto
NELS 29	(1998)	University of Delaware
NELS 30	(1999)	Rutgers University
NELS 31	(2000)	Georgetown University
NELS 32	(2001)	The City University of New York/New York University

NELS has always been and remains the most prestigious conference in theoretical linguistics hosted in its geographical area and 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 Linguistic 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 referred 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 insure that a significant number of speakers are graduate students. This tradition has been maintained principally because it provides graduate students who are relatively new in the field with a unique opportunity to meet and discuss their work with established researchers from other universities.

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