

PREFACE

The 17th International Symposium on Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (ISTAL), held by the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, took place from 14 to 17 April 2005.

The 17th ISTAL was preceded by a one-day workshop on the theme “Bilingualism: Grammatical Representations and Processes”. We are grateful to the speakers, Adriana Belletti, Susanne Carroll, Leonie Cornips, Aafke Hulk, Celia Jakubowicz, Theodore Marinis, Jürgen M. Meisel, Leah Roberts, Antonella Sorace and John Williams, who accepted our invitation to present their papers in the workshop and who reported important developments in current scientific research on bilingualism. The conception and the realization of the workshop would not have been possible without Ianthi Tsimpli, chair of the 17th ISTAL.

The 17th ISTAL attracted academics from all over Europe as well as from Brazil, Cyprus, Iran, Japan, Korea, the Republic of China and the USA. In total, there were 69 paper and 28 poster presentations, including 4 plenary sessions by Adriana Belletti of the University of Siena, Jürgen M. Meisel of the University of Hamburg, Anna Roussou of the University of Patras and Bonnie Schwartz of the University of Hawai’i. The symposium was attended by well over 300 academics, language teachers and students. The papers covered a wide range of topics in all areas of theoretical and applied linguistics and the symposium proved an excellent forum for the participants to discuss and exchange ideas.

The present volumes contain a selection of the papers and posters presented at the symposium. The papers are included in two volumes. Volume I contains the plenary paper by Anna Roussou (Part I) and 23 of the contributed papers (Part II), which are thematically organized into 3 sections: (i) Phonetics & Phonology; (ii) Morphology, Syntax & Semantics; (iii) Sociolinguistics. Volume II contains papers by the two plenary speakers, Adriana Belletti and Bonnie Schwartz (Part I). Part II includes 21 of the contributed papers divided into two sections: (i) Language Acquisition, Language Disorders & Language Processing; (ii) Education & Language Teaching.

The selection of the papers and the edition of these volumes would not have been possible without the help of the academics who were involved in the reviewing of the papers. We would like to thank Anna Anastasiadi-Simeonidi, Efrosyni Argyri, Kleanthes Grohmann, Paschalina Groutka, Kyriaki Kourouni, Eliza Koutoupi-Kiti, Marianthi Makri-Tsilipakou, Marina Mattheoudakis, Katerina Nicolaidis, Phoevos Panagiotidis, Anna Roussou, Ioanna Sitaridou, Areti Sougari and Ianthi Tsimpli, for devoting their time and providing their expertise.

Special thanks are also due to Tasos Paschalis for technical assistance and to the team of students who volunteered to help us with the organization of the symposium.

We would also like to express our thanks to the institutions that sponsored the event and the publication of these volumes:

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The editors

Eleni Agathopoulou

Maria Dimitrakopoulou

Despina Papadopoulou

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The Organizing Committee: Ianthi-Maria Tsimpli, Eleni Agathopoulou, Maria Dimitrakopoulou, Despina Papadopoulou, Apostolos Poullos