

# North East Linguistics Society

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## Front Matter

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Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society 29

University of Delaware

Volume One:

Papers from the Main Sessions

Edited by

Pius Tamanji, Masako Hirotsu, and Nancy Hall

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## PREFACE

The Linguistics Association of Delaware was happy to host the twenty-ninth meeting of the North East Linguistics Society. The LAD would like to thank the Dean of Arts and Sciences, Margaret Andersen, for financial and moral support. Thanks also go out to those in our department who helped out: Cindy Brown, Peter Cole, Gaby Hermon, Bill Idsardi, Irene Vogel, Jane Creswell, and especially our chair, Bill Frawley, for approaching the Dean on our behalf for this support and Colin Phillips who has spent more time than ever called for supervising our efforts.

Outside of our department we would like to thank the following linguists who reviewed abstracts for us. Their role in making NELS 29 successful can not be overstated.

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Mark Baker	Hajime Hoji	Jean-Francois Prunet
Mark Baltin	Elizabeth Hume	Tom Purnell
Judy B. Bernstein	Sabine Iatridou	Lisa Reed
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Stanley Dubinski	Gary Milsark	Donca Steriade
Carrie Dyck	Lynn Nichols	Thomas Stroik
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Steven Franks	Jaye Padgett	Satoshi Tomioka
Bill Frawley	Carole Paradis	Jacqueline Toribio

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Sten Vikner  
Irene Vogel  
Thomas Wasow

Gert Webelhuth  
Chris Wilder  
James Yoon  
Karen Zagona

Volume one also contains a reprint of Daniel Karvonen and Adam Sherman's paper *Opacity in Icelandic: A Sympathy Account*, which was presented at NELS 28. The original printing of this paper contained misprints which were the fault of GLSA and not the authors. We extend apologies to the authors and readers.

The editors would like to thank the authors for their timely submissions, Ana Arregui, Junko Shimoyama, and Hisao Tokizaki for their editorial assistance, Kiyomi Kusumoto for the great amount of help she provided, Ji-yung Kim and Mike Terry for their computer assistance at the last stage of editing, and Paul de Lacy, our computer czar, for keeping the computer humming.

The following presenters did not submit papers for publication:

Calixto Agüero-Bautista  
Rhajesh Bhatt  
Patrik Bye  
Gloria Cocchi  
Roumyana Izvorski  
Yoonjung Kang  
David Lebeaux  
Winfried Lechner  
Ki-Suk Lee  
Illeana Paul  
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Colin Wilson

Pius Tamanji, Masako Hirotsu, and Nancy Hall  
Editors  
Amherst, September 1999

## 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

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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 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 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 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 Linguistics 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 in the field with a unique opportunity to meet and discuss their work with established researchers from other universities.

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