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Hollebrandse: Front Matter

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Volume 22

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Edited by Bart Hollebrandse

GLSA University of Massachusetts, Amherst

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Preface

I am pleased to present to you the proceedings of the workshop New Perspectives on Language Acquisition. The workshop was held at the University of Massachusetts June 2-4 1997.

There were several sessions. The order of papers in this proceedings represent these sessions. The first session was on the early stages of language acquisition. There were four papers in this session: *Binarity and Singularity in Child Grammar* by Susan Powers, *Verb-Complement Patterns in Early Catalan* by Mireia LLinàs i Grau, *Agreement Mismatches and the Economy of Derivation* Sharon Armon-Lottem, *The Acquisition of Verb Movement in Hebrew* by Shalom *Tuckerman*.

The next two sessions were on developing representations. The first one focused on the representation of specificity, aspect and theory of mind. The following papers are included in this volume: *The Interaction of Syntax and Pragmatics in the Acquisition of Scrambling* by Jeannette Schaeffer, *Specificity, Acquisition of DPs and the Development of a Theory of Mind* by Ana Pèrez-Leroux, *What Children Know when They know about Viewpoint Aspect: Aspect and Theory of Mind* by Laura Wagner and *On learning the Role of Direct Objects for Telicity in Dutch and English* by Angeliek van Hout.

The second session focused on the representation of tense and theory of mind. Three papers are presented here: *Tense and Discourse in African-American English* by Michael Walsh Dickey, Valerie Johnson, Thomas Roeper and Harry Seymour, *On Acquiring the Structural Representations for False Complements* by Jill de Villiers and *On Theory of Mind and Sequence of Tense in Dutch* by Bart Hollebrandse.

Finally, there was a session on later stages in child language, mainly focusing on issues concerning binding and islandhood. Papers were Optimality Theory, Child Language and Logical Form by Arild Hestvik, Reciprocity and Binding in Early Child Grammar by Ayumi Matsuo, On the nature of Children's Left-Branch Violations by William Snyder, Deborah Chen, Maki Yamane, Laura Conway and Kazuko Hiramatsu, Negative Islands in Language Acquisition by Lamya Abdulkarim, Thomas Roeper and Jill de Villiers and Finding Fundamental Operations in Language Acquisition: Formal features as triggers by Thomas Roeper.

Thanks to the Psycholinguistic Trainee Grant, the Linguistics Department, the UMass Graduate School and the NIH grant #R01 DC 02172-04 "Language Disorders in African American Children" to Harry Seymour of the Department of Communication Disorders at the University of Massachusetts for their financial support. Thanks to Mike Dickey, Angeliek van Hout, Deanne Moore, Thomas Roeper, Jill de Villiers for their help at several stages of the preparations. And thanks to all the speakers and listeners at this workshop for participating and making it a wonderful event.

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Bart Hollebrandse Amherst, December 1998.

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