## **Preface**



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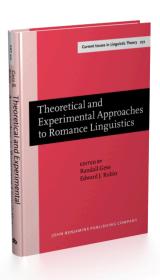
Theoretical and Experimental Approaches to Romance Linguistics: Selected papers from the 34th Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL), Salt Lake City, March 2004

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## **PREFACE**

The present volume is the outcome of the 34<sup>th</sup> annual *Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL)* held at the University of Utah in March, 2004. The symposium continued a 33 year-old tradition of annual conferences on the topic of theoretical Romance linguistics, sponsored and organized by different scholars at North American institutions each year. The tradition is noteworthy in that the *LSRL*, despite being an annual event, is not a regular meeting of an established scholarly organization because there is no organization or association behind the title. Rather, its continuity since 1970 is simply a testament to the number of scholars committed to the theoretical study of the Romance language family, and to the high regard granted to the conference in the field. The *LSRL* is widely recognized as one of the most prestigious venues for the presentation of scholarship on Romance linguistics, and attracts international participation from prominent senior scholars to graduate students, thereby promoting the sharing and dissemination of cutting-edge scholarly research on theoretical and Romance linguistics.

The 34<sup>th</sup> LSRL included participation from scholars representing institutions in the United States, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, France and Spain. The 51 presentations covered a number of areas of linguistic inquiry: syntax, semantics, phonetics, phonology, morphology, first and second language acquisition, historical linguistics, and sociolinguistics. In addition, the first-time parassession on laboratory approaches to Romance Linguistics provided valuable empirical studies on a variety of theoretical questions. The present volume includes 20 studies selected from among those presented at the conference, both theoretical and experimental, and covering most of the areas represented there. There were revisions to the selected studies, stemming from conference-based comments and discussions.

There are several organizations and individuals that helped to make the 34<sup>th</sup> *LSRL* a success, and we would like to acknowledge them here. First we would like to thank our graduate students, Jennifer Mitchell, Aleksandra Zaba, Julia James, Vivian Ngai and David Hall, for their invaluable assistance in organizing and facilitating the conference event. At the University of Utah, we would like to thank the Office of the Vice President for Research, the College of Humanities, The Department of Linguistics, the Tanner Humanities Center and the Department of Languages and Literature. Thanks go also to our colleague, David Iannucci, who paid conference registration fees for several undergraduate students at the University of Utah. We would also like to thank the University of Utah's Lonnie Norton, and UCSD's Ezra Van Everbroeck, for their invaluable assistance with the PASHA abstract reviewing software.

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