

Foreword & acknowledgements

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Historical Linguistics 2007: Selected papers from the 18th International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Montreal, 6–11 August 2007

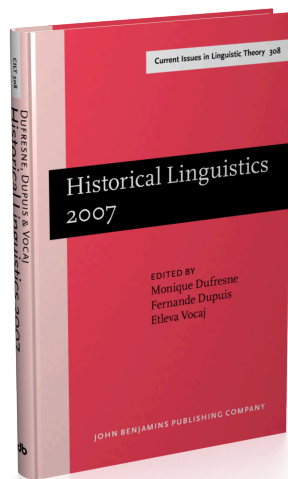
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Foreword & acknowledgements

The XVIIIth International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL XVIII) was held at the University du Québec à Montréal, 06–11 August 2007. The conference hosted more than 330 scholars from 35 different countries. The Organizing Committee, consisting of the undersigned and a large number of local assistants and advisors in addition to those offering advice from the universities of Ottawa, Wisconsin, Oxford, Copenhagen, among others, was delighted that so many linguists were able to participate.

Among the members of the Scientific Committee we would like to acknowledge the support of David Heap, University of Western Ontario; Sophie Prévost, LATTICE CNRS, École Normale Supérieure; Anne Rochette, Université du Québec à Montréal; Lisa Travis, McGill University; Ioanna Sitaridou, University of Cambridge; Daniel Valois, Université de Montréal; and François Daoust, Université du Québec à Montréal.

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The XVIIIth International Conference on Historical Linguistics also hosted the numerous workshops listed below. We would like to express our sincere thanks to their convenors: *Theoretical Historical Linguistics*: Bert Vaux, University of Cambridge; *Language Change in Real Time*: Frans Gregersen, University of Copenhagen, Anita Berit Hansen, University of Copenhagen, Hélène Blondeau, University of Florida; *Corpora and Computational Tools*: Fernande Dupuis, Université du Québec à Montréal; *Origins of Germanic*: Kurt Braunmüller, University of Hamburg, Theo Vennemann, University of Munich; *Towards realistic models of contact-induced change: Mapping psycholinguistic and sociolinguistic factors*: Ioanna Sitaridou, University of Cambridge, Marina Terkourafi, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; *Diachronic Semantics and Pragmatics*: Maj-Britt Mosegaard Hansen, University of Copenhagen/University of Manchester, Jacqueline Visconti,

University of Genoa; *Historical Grammar and Spanish Dialectology*: David Heap, University of Western Ontario, Enrique Pato Maldonado, Université de Montréal; *Constructions grammaticales et ordre des mots : évolution en français*: Sophie Prévost, LATTICE/CNRS, École Normale Supérieure; *The Genesis of Creole Languages*: Claire Lefebvre, Université du Québec à Montréal; *Quantitative Approaches to Comparative Linguistics*: Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin, Sheila Embleton, York University; *The Theory of Metatypy (East Asian Languages)*: James M. Unger, Ohio State University, John Whitman, Cornell University; *Alternative Language Histories from the mid 18th century onwards: A view 'from below'*: France Martineau, Université d'Ottawa; *Language Change*: Monique Dufresne, Queen's University.

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We are additionally grateful to all the anonymous reviewers who helped us during the selection process for the Conference and in evaluating the papers submitted for publication in this volume. We thank Dr. E.F.K. Koerner, the series editor of 'Current Issues in Linguistic Theory', and his various advisors and commentators on individual articles. We also thank Simon Larochelle-Robillard, Université du Québec à Montréal, Gretchen McCulloch, Queen's University, Tobin Skinner, McGill University, and Michelle Troberg, University of Toronto, for their help in editing, formatting, and proofreading the manuscript; and Anke de Looper and her colleagues at John Benjamins for seeing the volume through production.

The Editors hope that, with all of the advice and support they received before, during and after the Conference and, especially, in the process of bringing the present volume of selected papers together, the final result will adequately reflect what was said and done at this important scholarly meeting.

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