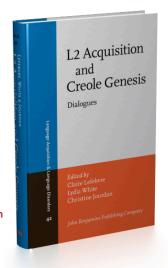
Preface



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PREFACE

The purpose of this volume is to contribute to rebuilding the dialogue between L2 acquisitionists and creolists. It focuses on shared processes that are at work in both L2 acquisition and creole genesis, and on the similarities and differences between these two situations.

The results reported on in this volume are based on a research project (2002–2005, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada) entitled "Cognitive and Social Processes in the Formation and Acquisition of New Language Varieties" (Claire Lefebvre, Christine Jourdan and Lydia White). The objective of the project was to establish a multidisciplinary research network that would bring together researchers on pidgin, creole and mixed languages and second language acquisition (from the perspective of linguistics, anthropology, sociology and psychology, as well as related fields), whose research explicitly or implicitly takes account of such processes. We created an interactive website to connect the members of the network and to allow the exchange of ideas and data. With members of the network, we held a workshop at the Université du Québec à Montréal (August 27 to 29, 2004), entitled *Montreal Dialogues: Processes in L2 Acquisition and in Creole Genesis*. The chapters of this book constitute a selection of the papers presented at that workshop.

We would like to thank SSHRCC for financing these research activities. We are grateful to the students who contributed in one way or other to the realization of this project: Anne-Sophie Bally, Virginie Loranger, Annie Loyer and Isabelle Therrien. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all of the participants in the workshop and contributors to the book for their insightful contributions, discussions and dialogues. Gratitude is also due to Heather Goad, Stephen Matthews and Virginia Yip for their most helpful contributions in reviewing the papers for this volume. Finally, thanks to Zofia Laubitz for copy-editing the manuscripts, to Andrée Bélanger for formatting them, and to Claude Dionne and Lucie Kearns for preparing the indexes.