

Foreword and tabula gratulatoria

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Perspectives on Phonological Theory and Development: In honor of Daniel A. Dinnsen

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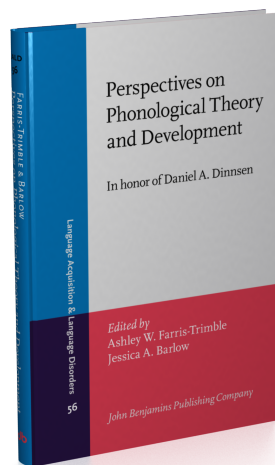
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Foreword and *tabula gratulatoria*

Dan Dinnsen's long and illustrious career has spanned many facets of phonology and language acquisition and has influenced researchers in a number of disciplines. The wide variety of topics in this volume (including, among others, both first and second language acquisition, minority dialects, children with cochlear implants, genetics, prosody, theoretical phonology, and cross-linguistic typology) attest to the broad impact of his research.

Dinnsen's influence is not simply limited to his research, however. He has mentored dozens of students and has taught thousands. He encouraged, supported, and pushed his students to do their best. As a mentor, he was always available to answer a question, give advice, or listen to a rant about the futility of a research topic (and then, of course, to argue otherwise). As a teacher, he was highly respected and had a reputation for being tough but funny and fair. From his impressions of Kermit the Frog to his Thanksgiving-time analogies between phonology and turkeys to his stories about unwittingly frightening parents when he diagnosed their children with "terminal devoicing," he always managed to remind his students and mentees that as a discipline, phonology can be entertaining. His reminder that "nobody dies if a linguist is wrong" encouraged students to take chances and think for themselves.

This volume is a tribute to Dan's well-deserved retirement and a testament to his well-deserved reputation. It is also a thank-you, from the bottom of our hearts, for all the time and energy he has poured into our development as students and colleagues over the years. So thanks, Dan, for everything – we hope this volume does you justice.

Finally, we'd also like to extend our thanks to a number of people who helped make this volume possible, including Philip Combiths, Peter Flipsen, Heather Goad, Matthew Gordon, Jill Hoover, Michael Marlo, Andrew Nevins, Elgustus Polite, Tom Shannon, Laura Catharine Smith, Carol Stoel-Gammon, Anne-Michelle Tessier, and Steven Weinberger.

Ashley & Jessica

Tabula gratulatoria

The following students, colleagues, and friends wish to congratulate Dan on his retirement. All have benefitted greatly from his mentorship and collegiality. Of

course, this list represents only a small fraction of the individuals whose careers and lives have been influenced by Dan – apologies go out to those whom we were unable to contact.

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