

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
BERKELEY LINGUISTICS SOCIETY**

**February 18-21, 1994**

**GENERAL SESSION**

**DEDICATED  
TO THE  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF  
CHARLES J. FILLMORE**

**Berkeley Linguistics Society  
Berkeley, California, USA**



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edited by

Susanne Gahl

Andy Dolbey

Christopher Johnson

Berkeley Linguistics Society

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## PREFACE

We are pleased to present the proceedings of the twentieth annual meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society.

To celebrate our twentieth anniversary, BLS decided to dedicate the conference to the contributions of Charles J. Fillmore, in recognition of his influence on the field of Linguistics, and as a thank you from BLS officers past and present.

The idea of dedicating the conference to Chuck was received with great enthusiasm. It soon became clear that, rather than focusing on a narrow topic, in the form of a parasession, the most natural way of honoring Charles J. Fillmore, grammarian-at-large, was to announce our dedication as the theme of the General Session as a whole and to invite papers from all areas touched upon by his work.

The response to this proposal was more than enthusiastic. We were overwhelmed by the eagerness of the conference participants to honor Chuck and to thank him. Special thanks to Matt Shibatani and Sandy Thompson, who allowed BLS to provide the forum for a surprise announcement of the publication of two volumes that they edited together, both of which are dedicated to the guest of honor: *Essays in Semantics and Pragmatics: In Honor of Charles J. Fillmore* (Benjamins), and *Grammatical Constructions: Their Form and Meaning* (Oxford). Sincere thanks to Eve Sweetser who also was at the center of this delightful conspiracy.

We would also like to thank Barbara Kaiser and Josh Guenter, without whom the task of organizing the conference would have been overwhelming. Numerous other members of the Linguistics department at Berkeley also helped to make the conference possible, among them Collin Baker, Kevin Moore, Ju Namkung, Sondra Reinman, Jocelyn Rybka, Laurel Sutton, Natasha Warner, and Comfort Wentum. Leela Bilmes put together an incredible conference party, which everybody who was there will remember for a long time, and which many who weren't there will have heard about by now. We are grateful to the Office of the Dean of the Graduate Division for providing extra funds for this special event, and we are also grateful for the support we have received from the Linguistics Department chair, Larry Hyman.

We hope that you enjoy this volume!

The editors of BLS 20

Susanne Gahl  
Andy Dolbey  
Chris Johnson