

PREFACE

The first International Conference on Modern Greek Dialects and Linguistic Theory was held at the Conference and Cultural Center of the University of Patras, Greece from October 12 to 14, 2000. It was hosted by the Dept. of Philology (Linguistics Division) and chaired by Angela Ralli (University of Patras), Brian D. Joseph (The Ohio State University) and Mark Janse (Ghent University).

The aim of the Conference was to establish the first truly international Greek linguistic forum that brings together experts working on both linguistic theory and the dialects of Modern Greek in a variety of topics and orientations. The conference was received very enthusiastically by all delegates to an extent that exceeded our initial expectations. A major outcome was the firm will, expressed by all 100 participants, to attend a similar meeting that will be organized every four years at the University of Patras.

We would like to express our gratitude to the invited speakers who so promptly responded to our call and came to the conference, namely, Cleo Condoravdi, Gaberell Drachman, Franco Fanciullo, Eric Hamp, Angeliki Malikouti-Drachman, Paul Kiparsky, and Peter Trudgill. We would also like to thank the others speakers not only for their participation, but for their understanding of the editorial requirements too.

We are particularly grateful to the members of the Organizing Committee (Arjiris Archakis, Dimitris Papazachariou and Asimakis Fliatouras) for their most valuable support before and during the conference. A special 'thank you' goes to the graduate student Stamatia-Irini Spiliopoulou for her important help to the preparation of this volume, and to the following undergraduate students who significantly contributed to the successful organization of the conference: Anna Maria Athanasatou, Thanassis Karasimos, Sofia Katsoura, Marina Maniadi, Panayota Margaza, Dimitra Melissaropoulou, Panayota Photopoulou, Vassiliki Sterjiou, Photini Stratiji, Thanasis Tsiamas, Sofia Vrakatseli.

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On behalf of the Scientific Committee,

Angela Ralli
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