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(NACCL-29)

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## CONFERENCE ORGANIZER'S REMARKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The idea of Rutgers serving as host of a NACCL meeting was first raised when Marjorie Chan approached me during NACCL-25 at the University of Michigan in 2013 (held June 21-23). At the time her proposal was for us to host a few years into the future and I quickly accepted, thinking that there was plenty of preparation time. After some discussion in the months that followed, we agreed that Rutgers would host in 2017 for the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. The subsequent few years passed quickly, however, and when it came time to actually move forward on the conference preparations, suddenly time seemed far less plentiful. But I was fortunate to have an enthusiastic team of colleagues and students who willingly joined in to assist. Things proceeded apace from the call for papers, through the review of abstracts, the scheduling of space and presentations, and the preparation of the program.

The conference came to a successful conclusion after a busy and fast-paced two-and-a-half days. But in the bustle of conference planning and hosting, I had not given thought to the preparation of a conference proceedings volume. I was also quickly distracted by many other obligations and activities that came to the fore after NACCL-29 ended. So when Lan Zhang wrote to me a few weeks later in July to inquire about plans for a volume of conference proceedings, I was at first at a loss as to how to reply—until I noticed that her inquiry included an offer to assist. After a bit of further discussion and consultation with Marjorie Chan, I was delighted that we were able to parlay Lan Zhang's offer of assistance into full editorship of the proceedings. She readily took the reins and we sent out a call for submissions soon after. Just one-and-a-half years later, the result of her editorship is the two volumes now before us. They reveal that we could not have identified a better editor.

I think that all contributors and readers will be equally and greatly impressed by the results of Lan Zhang's detailed and painstaking effort. She has put together a fine record and worthy representative of the NACCL-29 conference. Contained herein is a collection of high quality papers that reflect the many facets of the conference theme, *Perspectives on the History, Geography, and Sociolinguistics of Chinese and Chinese Dialects*, led by the generous and significant contributions of two of the keynote speakers at the conference. The quality and range of the selection of papers in these pages will certainly ensure that these proceedings will have significant prestige and scholarly impact in the field and stand among the finest that NACCL has offered over its three decades of activity.

I wish here to express my sincerest thanks to Lan Zhang for all the time and effort she put into these NACCL-29 proceedings. I am most deeply indebted to her for so generously taking up the editorship and for seeing it through to completion, thus bringing the NACCL-29 endeavor to such a fine and high-quality conclusion. These proceedings would likely not have happened were it not for her freely offered yet assiduous stewardship of the project. I would also like to thank David Prager Branner and Marinus Van Den Berg, the two contributing keynote speakers, for their articles. I am grateful and honored that they have thereby acknowledged the value of this venue to represent their important work. I am of course also grateful for the contributions from

all the other scholar authors represented in these proceedings. These volumes would have no content if these scholars had not done the research and writing that we can now see within their pages. In addition, I wish to acknowledge once again the work and organizational contributions of the NACCL-29 Organizing Committee at Rutgers in 2016-2017 (alphabetically): Luca Iaconi, John Phan, Jenny Yang, Wei Yang, and Yu Lou. Thanks are also due to Marjorie Chan for giving me the opportunity to host NACCL-29 at Rutgers and for cheering us on from planning through production. Finally, many thanks are due to the Program Coordinators at the Rutgers University Office of Continuing Professional Education that year, who facilitated logistics for NACCL-29, Dalynn Knigge and Bianca Kovalenko. They made it possible for the conference to actually happen, and, together with all the others mentioned above, thus set up the *raison d'être* for these proceedings.

Richard VanNess Simmons

April 2, 2019

## PREFACE

The 29th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-29) was held at Rutgers University on June 16-18, 2017.

After the conference ended, the presenters were invited to submit their revised papers for publication in the Proceedings of the 29th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics. Thirty-six of the presented papers were submitted and included in the proceedings. The papers have been divided into nine parts and placed in two volumes: Volume 1 is composed of Parts 1 through 7, and Volume 2 includes Parts 8 and 9. In Volume 1, Part 1 contains the papers of two invited speakers, Dr. David Branner and Dr. Marinus Van Den Berg. Dr. Branner dedicates his paper to Professor Jerry Norman. Part 2 comprises papers on phonetics and phonology; Part 3 pertains to discourse analysis; Part 4 is on historical linguistics research; Part 5 concerns language acquisition; Part 6 deals with lexicology; and Part 7 is on language contact. In Volume 2, Part 8 contains papers on syntax and semantics, and Part 9 is on sociolinguistics and regional varieties.