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A Note from the Editor:

The technical contents of this issue consist of the proceedings of a workshop that was held at Stanford University just prior to the ACL Annual Meeting of June 29 – July 1, 1981. An explanation of how the workshop came about and who is responsible for it is included in the Introduction by Carroll Johnson and Joan Bachenko. The five areas surveyed in the Proceedings provide a good overview of the state of the art of a major portion of Computational Linguistics, and these surveys should be of interest to readers just entering the field as well as to those who have long been active. The references, in particular, should prove of considerable value. We regret that it has taken this long after the workshop to assemble this collection of papers, but the large number of people involved made it inevitable that some would not find it possible to meet the schedule which was set up for an earlier date of publication.

The workshop itself gave the individual panels time for extended discussion, and culminated in the panel chairmen giving oral presentations of their panelists' observations and findings. Panel chairmen were, in general, careful to distinguish between their conclusions and those of their panelists, because there was considerable difference of opinion on such matters as the attainments of existing systems and the prognosis for future ones.

Following the workshop, panel chairmen were required to write up a summary of their panels' deliberations and to submit the resulting summaries to panel members for comment and suggestions. Hence, the five panel chairmen, Gary Hendrix (Natural Language Interfaces), William Mann (Text Generation), Christine Montgomery (Concept Extraction), Martin Kay (Machine Translation), and Richard Kittredge (Sublanguages) should be acknowledged as authors of the papers in this issue. Panelists' contributions consisted of discussion at the workshop and careful review of their panel chairmen's drafts. After a period of rewriting, manuscripts were forwarded for review to the Navy Research Laboratory, where further editorial review was exercised.

As this issue goes to press, we have in hand, machine-readable versions of the three papers which will comprise the next issue. They should be printed in final form by us and ready for duplication and binding by the time you read this. Hence, this issue will be followed by one more under our editorial by-line before James Allen takes over. We are in the process of cleaning up our files on pending papers and transferring them to the new editor, and new contributions should be sent directly to him.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of our Production Editor, Cay Dietrich, in transforming raw, machine-readable text with either no formatting commands or (more typically) formatting commands for a different formatter than the one we are using. Cay has done a really outstanding job because she not only is an expert in the use of our computer photocomposition system but also has an understanding of the technical contents of the papers in question that allows her to produce a typography and layout that is a credit to the ACL. She has agreed to stay on as Production Editor, and we are all fortunate for the really large effort she has made on our behalf. Cay's last issue was deficient in only one respect: she failed to include reference to her own contribution as Production Editor in the listing of AJCL officers. We rectify that omission with this note.

F. J. Damerou and S. R. Petrick, Editors Pro Tem.

