

IN CONFERENCE, March 15, 2012

The unanimous Declaration of the delegates
assembled for the 25th Annual CUNY Conference

At this juncture in the history of our Conference, it is necessary to celebrate the forces that have brought us together, and have in so doing promoted a sustained scientific discourse that has enlarged our Understanding of the Science of Language and greatly enlivened our Common Experience in the pursuit of that understanding. It is our pleasure to declare our appreciation of a Prime Mover whose good offices have brought us to this estate:

Distinguished Professor Janet Dean Fodor

A decent respect to the opinions of Scientists requires that we declare the Ground on which we stand.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all sentences are not created equal, that they are each endowed by their creators with certain unalienable Properties, chief among these being Semantics, Syntax, Morphology, Phonology, and Prosody in the hot pursuit of Meaning and Expression. It is the province of the Sciences of Language to explain the grand confluence of these Properties in Human Sentence Processing. It was to secure these ends that Conferences were instituted in Manhattan in 1988 among Linguists and Psychologists, and their friends and allies who number Computational Scientists, Mathematicians, Neuroscientists and Philosophers, and called together recurrently with an escalation of Forays to places exotic and distant.

When theories are found wanting, it is our duty and our right to alter or to abolish them, and to institute new forms, laying their Foundation on such Principles and organizing their tenets in such form as shall seem most likely to effect a predictive theory with descriptive power and explanatory beauty. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that theories long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that Scientists are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of Compelling Observations and Experimental Findings evinces designs that established theory cannot abide, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off old ways, and provide new modes of thought that support Scientific Advance. Such has been the experience of these Conferences.

The history of our Conference is inextricably entwined with the acts of our esteemed colleague, Janet Dean Fodor. It is a history of repeated efforts to promote the Sciences of Language, all acts having in direct object the establishment of a more comprehensive and empirically satisfying theory of Human Sentence Processing. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

One of the most illustrious women's leader is none other than Janet. *Terry Langendoen*

The green peppers and sausage dream: A new two-stage sandwich machine *Lyn Frazier*

Who developed the prosody hypothesis? What hypothesis did Janet develop?
Janet developed the prosody hypothesis. Janet developed the prosody hypothesis. *Anne Cutler*

Janet will doubtless not fail to remember PDNs. *Merrill Garrett*

Janet and Steven and there was a man carrying golf clubs. *Ken Forster*

極端に親切な学生の先生は、ジャネットです。
yokutanni shinsetsuna gakusei-no sensei-wa Janet desu
extremely kind student-GEN teacher-TO Janet is
(a) The teacher of the extremely kind student is Janet.
(b) The extremely kind teacher of a student is Janet. *Atsu Inoue*

How many weird null PREP questions did Janet's infinite patience, wisdom and curiosity force me to listen? *Elaine Klein*

25年前、ジャネットは、第一回CUNY Conferenceでポスター発表することを勧めてくれました。
25nen-mae Janet-wa dai-ikkai CUNY Conference-de posutaa happyousuru koto-o susumete kuremasita.
25 year-ago Janet-TOP the-first CUNY Conference-at poster presentation fact-ACC recommend beneficially
Twenty-five years ago, Janet recommended me to present a poster at the first CUNY Conference.
それ以来、ジャネットは常に私を励まし、勇気づけてくれました。
Sore irai, Janet-wa tuneni watasi-o hagemasi, yuuki-zuketekure-masita.
it since Janet-TOP always I-ACC stimulate encourage do-Polite
Since then, Janet always stimulated and encouraged me. *Tsutomu Sakamoto*

Which conference is Janet's city really, really great to hold in? *Chuck Clifton*

Any problem students Janet taught solve stays settled. *Tom Bever*

Any supposedly intimidating problem students Janet taught solve stays settled from now until forever.
Any problem students the charming Janet consistently enthusiastically taught solve hassle-free stays settled. *Stefanie Nickels*

Old men and women prefer MAX FACTOR to any other constraint reports Janet in a recent review of the literature. *Terry Langendoen*

The psycholinguist celebrated for many years started a conference. *Suzanne Stevenson*

La conferenza che ha lanciato nel 1988 la professoressa che gli psicolinguisti stanno festeggiando è arrivata alla sua 25esima edizione.
The conference that started in 1988 the professor-FEM that the psycholinguists are celebrating has arrived at its 25th edition. *Lucia Pozzan*

Every psycholinguist idly thought about a quantifier, but Janet really scoped them out. *Maryellen MacDonald*

Though the young student claimed that she will be the first woman president yesterday she announced that she'd rather be Janet. *Lyn Frazier*

Janet Dean Fodor fights fights still fights for the CUNY Sentence Processing Conference after 25 celebrations. Three cheers for Janet!!! *José García-Albea*

Janet, the CUNY Conference has defined and sustained the field of sentence processing. Thank you so much. *Peter Gordon*

Avec circonspection, Janet avait supprimé cette ligne de/du texte pour clarifier l'argument. Advisedly, Janet had deleted this line (of, from) the text to clarify the argument. *Saveria Colonna & Barbara Hemforth*

Psycholinguists admire Janet more than anybody else.
Psycholinguists admire Janet more than anybody else does. *José Manuel Igoa*

