

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring 1979 marks the tenth anniversary of the Southeastern Conference on Linguistics. As with any happy anniversary, it is an occasion for looking back and looking forward as well as for celebrating.

The first meeting of SECOL was held March 28-30, 1969, at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Since that time SECOL has convened eighteen times for the formal presentation of papers and for the informal sharing of ideas, hopes, and concerns. I have met many colleagues through SECOL, whose friendships have enriched my life both personally and professionally, and I feel certain that many other SECOL members have had the same experience.

As a scholarly society with a small treasury, SECOL has had to depend on the generosity of universities in the region to host our conferences. Over the past ten years SECOL has met at Florida State University, the University of Florida, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Georgia Institute of Technology (twice), the University of Maryland, the University of Georgia, Georgetown University, the University of Virginia, the University of South Florida, Vanderbilt University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and the University of Tennessee. We are indeed grateful to all of these institutions for welcoming us and hope to travel to many more campuses in the next ten years. In 1971 and every fall since 1974, SECOL has met jointly with the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, a cooperative venture which we think has been advantageous to both organizations. SECOL appreciates the efforts of Edward Bratton and Donald Kay, Executive Secretaries of SAMLA, in facilitating these joint meetings, and we look forward to continued good relations between SAMLA and SECOL in our second decade.

SECOL publications began in January 1970 with a four-page mimeographed newsletter entitled "The Southeastern Linguist." The spring issue that year appeared in the shape of a booklet and bore the familiar SECOL logo used ever since on the cover of the newsletter and bulletin. From fall 1970 through spring 1975 the SECOL Newsletter grew under the editorship of Sarita Schotta. It contained the list of members, call for papers, professional activities of members, programs of meetings, minutes of SECOL business meetings, and announcements of interest to the membership. Reza Ordoubadian assumed the editorship in the fall of 1975. In keeping with the plans of the Executive Committee for gradually expanding the official SECOL publication, the name was changed in spring 1976 to The SECOL Bulletin. Thanks mainly to the devotion

of Reza Ordoubadian and the behind-the-scenes support of Middle Tennessee State University, The SECOL Bulletin is now a journal with an editorial board that reviews all submissions. The first scholarly article appeared in the Bulletin in fall 1977. The three numbers of volume two which appeared in 1978 illustrate the current format for the SECOL Bulletin: the fall and spring numbers include organizational information like the membership list, meeting programs, minutes, etc., plus a scholarly article or two as space allows; the summer number is devoted to articles and book reviews. The editorial board--currently Greta Little and Charles Ruhl--reads all papers given at the SECOL meetings as well as papers submitted for publication and makes recommendations to the editor. With these editorial procedures and the improved quality of papers presented at SECOL meetings, the SECOL Bulletin promises to become a respected scholarly journal which will enhance the reputation of linguistic studies in the Southeast. Please urge your library to subscribe to it.

To fulfill our hopes for the future, SECOL needs the active participation of every linguist in the Southeast. To this end, representatives are at work in Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, the District of Columbia, and the Islands of the Caribbean. Representatives are still needed for Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Virginia. Please volunteer your help.

SECOL XX, hosted by Old Dominion University in Norfolk, will provide a suitable setting for SECOL's tenth anniversary celebration. The program, focusing on "The Language of Literature," promises to be exciting. In addition, local arrangements director John Broderick has set aside a time for an official tenth anniversary celebration. I hope that every member will be there to join the toast to SECOL's health and long life.

Connie C. Eble

Connie C. Eble
SECOL President