Preface: SCiL 2018 Editors’ Note

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This volume contains research presented at the inaugural meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), held in Salt Lake City, January 4-7 2018, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

These proceedings include the full length paper submissions that were peer-reviewed as papers and accepted for either oral or poster presentation at SCiL 2018. The first 5 papers in the proceedings are those that were accepted as oral presentations, while the remaining 12 papers were presented as posters. Submissions to SCiL also included abstracts, which were presented as talks or posters at the conference. Further information, including the schedule and abstracts, can be found at our website: https://blogs.umass.edu/scil/scil-2018/.

In total, we received 55 submissions to the conference, 34 abstracts and 21 papers. 18 of the submissions (44%) included a female author. We accepted 13 submissions as talks, and 27 as posters. Six of the talks (46%) included a female author, and 12 of the posters (44%) included a female author. We thank our reviewers for their indispensable help in selecting the research for presentation at the conference:


We also thank Coral Hughto, Su-Lin Blodgett and Andrew Lamont for their help in recruiting and assigning reviewers to papers, and everyone who indicated a willingness to review whose services we couldn’t use. Andrew Lamont also helped enormously with the production of this volume.

The conference also included invited talks by Jacob Andreas, Emily M. Bender, Sam Bowman, Chris Dyer, Jason Eisner, Robert Frank, Matt Goldrick, Sharon Goldwater, Paul Smolensky, which formed a special session on “Perceptrons and Syntactic Structures at Sixty”, funded by NSF conference grant BCS-1651142 to the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Thanks to Tom Maxfield for logistical help.