Preface

This volume presents working versions of presentations heard at and selected for the Workshop on Syntax of Predication, held at ZAS, Berlin, on November 2-3, 2001 (except the editor’s own paper).

Predication is a many-faceted topic which involves both syntax and semantics and the interface between them. This is reflected in the papers of the volume.

Tor A. Áfarli & Kristin M. Eide's paper 'Predication at the Interface' asks a basic question what role predication plays in the computation of human language. They aim to show that syntactic operations are basically semantically driven. David Adger & Gillian Ramchand's 'Predication and Equation' investigates how the structures of predication, especially that of nominal predication, tell us the relationship between syntax and semantics.

Peter Svenonius 'Case and Event Structure' and Kylie Richardson's 'What Secondary Predicates in Russian Tell us About the Link Between Tense, Aspect and Case' both reveal the interpretable side of formal features such as case in primary and secondary predication.

Ana Ardid-Gumiel's 'The Syntax of Depictives, Subjects, Modes of Judgement and I-L/S-L Properties,' explores the syntactic and semantic properties of depictives in Spanish. Readers will see an interesting link between the conditions she finds for Spanish Individual Level depictives and Richardson's description of Russian depictives in Instrumental case.

Focussing on Pseudo-Relatives in Romance, Prepositional Infinitival Constructions, and regard-as & take-for constructions, Joan Rafel's contribution, 'The Syntax of Small Clause Predication,' proposes a unified syntactic configuration for predication in general.

In Kleanthes K. Grohmann's 'On Predication, Derivation and Anti-Locality,' the proposed constraint on movement, i.e., Anti-Locality, is tested in the derivations of secondary predication constructions.

Three papers touch the topic how to explain cross-linguistic variations in secondary predication. Jaume Mateu's 'Small Clause Results Revisited' provides a morpho-syntactic account for the well-known typological distinction between ‘satellite-framed languages’ such as English and German and ‘verb-framed languages’ such as Catalan and Spanish. In 'Secondary Predication and Default Case,' Youngjun Jang & Siyoun Kim claim that the fact that if a verb is intransitive, the subject of a secondary predicate is nominative in Korean, rather than Accusative as expected from the English point of view, is the result of default case. Finally, Niina Zhang's 'On Nonprimary Selectional Restrictions' makes a proposal that in computing nonprimary predication, verbs show a special type of c- and s-selectional restrictions, which account for cross-linguistic and language-internal variations in the constraints on category and semantic type of nonprimary predicates.

The contributions represent research on central syntactic and semantic topics that throws light on properties of primary and secondary predication from different point of view.

Papers presented at the workshop that do not appear in this volume:
Primary Predicates as Matrix Small Clauses (John Frederick Bailyn)
The Recursion of Predication (Edit Doron & Caroline Heycock)
Building Complex Events in Hindi/Urdu (Miriam Butt & Gillian Ramchand)
Primitive Elements of Verbal Predicates: Evidence from Persian (Karine Megerdoomian)
It has been a pleasure to be both an organizer of the workshop and an editor for this volume. I thank all participants and local colleagues for contributing to the success of the workshop, and the authors of this volume. I also thank Mathias Krüger for making this first online volume of ZASPIL possible.

I hope you will enjoy these papers as much as I did.

Berlin, December 20, 2001

Niina Zhang