FOREWORD

This volume comprises a selection of papers presented at the international Workshop 'Romanian Fest in Geneva: Language structure and meaning. The view from Romanian', held on November 11-13, 2014 at the Linguistics Department of the Faculty of Letters, University of Geneva[1].

The volume opens with **Alexandra Cornilescu**'s paper, devoted to the study of the low definite article and the evolution of the DP in Romanian. It is argued that the definite article in Old Romanian (OR) may occupy the first position inside the DP as well as a lower position and that OR displays both Local and Long Distance Agree when it comes to valuating definiteness. It is further argued that the subsequent disappearance of the low article triggered the specialization of the demonstrative pronoun *(a)cel* as the second definite article of Romanian. Unlike OR, where Long Distance Agree co-exists with Local Agree, Modern Romanian only relies on the latter mechanism, with a direct consequence on the disappearance of those constructs presupposing the valuation of definiteness across another constituent. This change is argued to have been triggered by the fact that definiteness becomes a concord feature with adjectives at some point in the evolution of Romanian, which could enter the derivation carrying an unvalued uninterpretable definite feature which would be valued by way of Agree with the noun. The availability of such a mechanism which allowed the valuing of definiteness on pre-nominal adjectives triggered the requirement (holding for ModR) that the constituent valuing the definiteness feature of D be the first AP?NP below that D.

Mihaela Tănase-Dogaru investigates the lower part of the Determiner Phrase in Romanian, analyzing the relation holding between the Classifier and the Number projections. Several important conclusions are reached: It is firstly shown that Number projects syntactically within the Romanian DP and that NumP is sufficient for argumenthood, being a strong projection. A second, novel result which disconfirms the main line of analysis adopted within the literature on Romanian so far concerns number morphology and classifier morphology, which are shown to co-occur. Thirdly, it is shown that the first nominal inside pseudopartitive constructions serves the same purpose as classifiers in classifier languages. Finally, bare singulars are argued to project Number.

Mihaela Zamfirescu's paper investigates lexical positive polarity items (PPI) in Romanian with a view to integrate the two main directions of analysis in the literature: PPIs licensing and the inherent meaning of PPIs. In what concerns the former aspect, the study of potential triggers and possible configurations leads the author to conclude that PPIs are doubly marked negative polarity items. With respect to the latter undertaking, the author reaches the conclusion that PPIs should be ranged with scalar predicates that trigger to inference phenomena.

Maria Aurelia Cotfas's paper deals with Romanian subjunctive dependents selected by control predicates. The author challenges the view that Romanian is a control language arguing instead for its inclusion into the class of raising languages (cf. the parameter proposed in Alboiu 2007). Romanian should thus be ranged with the Balkan languages in view of the fact that it displays very few cases of control, which are accounted for as instances of standard raising. The paper also proposes a more refined, tripartite classification of subjunctive dependents in control environments, identifying a novel type of subjunctive complement labeled as 'the Independent Subjunctive', whose properties, such as lack of selection, draw it closer to indicatives.

Anamaria Benţea's paper is a language acquisition study devoted to the comprehension of *who-* and *which*-questions by typically developing monolingual Romanian-speaking children. Its aim is threefold: to verify whether the subject/object asymmetry identified crosslinguistically is also apparent in Romanian, to investigate whether case-marking mechanisms influence the comprehension of wh-questions, and to determine the NP relevance in what concerns children's computation of locality effects. The results reveal two asymmetries with children: a subject-object asymmetry in the comprehension of *which* questions and a performance asymmetry with respect to object *who-* and *which*-dependencies. No difference with respect to the comprehension of subject and object *who*-questions is detected. In line with Friedman et al. (2009), the author views these asymmetries as intervention effects caused by the relation of inclusion holding between the featural sets which characterize the intervening subject and the moved wh-object.

Alina Tigău's paper focuses on the syntax of Romanian Clitic Doubling (CD), with the aim to provide a unified account of all CD sequences. In line with Uriagereka (2001, 2002, 2005) accusative CD structures are analysed as integrals on a par with their possessive CD counterparts. In this way CD configurations stand out from non-doubled ones as constructions in their own right, with their own semantics and syntax. Under this account the clitic is always obligatory as it sets up the integral predication by grounding a sub-event in the event structure of the clause. This is a desirable result which unifies the 'obligatory' CD cases with the 'optional' ones.