

## PREFACE

This volume of *Clinical Aphasiology* contains a collection of papers by clinicians and researchers all of whom are in the business of providing treatment to patients exhibiting aphasia. The process that resulted in the inclusion of the papers in this volume provides a forum for scholar-clinician-researchers to share a wide range of work all aimed toward providing improved care to aphasic patients.

The procedures for inclusion of these works began with the submission of papers to the Clinical Aphasiology Conference program committee where each paper was subjected to blind review. The papers that are included in this volume were selected following that review. In addition, the individual authors presented their work to the eighteenth Clinical Aphasiology Conference in June, 1988. Following the presentation of each paper additional review, exchange, and critique were provided through an exchange between the audience and the author. These question-answer-discussion sessions were recorded and are presented following each paper whenever they occurred. The reader of this volume is advised to consider the rare opportunity to share the insights, praise, and critique of an audience of practicing clinicians. That audience often identifies, describes, and elaborates strengths or weaknesses of the works herein presented.

The reader will see that clinical aphasiology covers a broad range from germinal idea studies with small numbers of subjects to large, multiyear research projects. Some authors present their ideas relative to the applicability of research to patient care, and a wide range of philosophies and viewpoints are expressed.

In her opening address to the 1988 Clinical Aphasiology Conference, Penelope Meyers, the Conference Chairperson, stated that,

Our purpose is to share the results of carefully designed research with other clinicians in the hope that this sharing will spill over into the clinical world. It is an opportunity to learn more about helping those whom we serve. As clinicians/researchers we are interested in the pure science of discovery, in new knowledge about brain/behavior mechanisms, and in new understanding for its own sake. We do not need to see the immediate connections between the fruits of our investigation and improvement in patient care to keep asking questions and seeking answers. But when the connections are apparent, we hope to be there to see them and to help channel that information to others in clinical work.

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be clinically applicable. This volume will be well worth your consideration. The true benefactors of your study herein will be your patients.

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