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Preface

All the papers in this collection are based upon talks or poster presentations given at the Corpus Linguistics (CL2001) conference, held at Lancaster University between 29th March and 2nd April 2001 organised by members of UCREL, from the Departments of Linguistics & Modern English Language and Computing.

The conference attracted over 100 participants from the language engineering and corpus linguistics communities in over 20 countries world-wide. The presentations represented a truly impressive rainbow of languages in corpus research, ranging from ancient languages, eastern and western European languages, to Semitic and Asian languages.

One of the aims of CL2001 was to celebrate the works of Geoffrey Leech who reached 65 in 2001. Geoffrey, a pioneer in the construction and exploitation of machine-readable corpora, has had considerable influence in many areas of linguistics over the years. A selection of papers from the conference will appear in an edited collection to be published in honour of Geoffrey Leech.

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Lancaster University, March 2001.