Stanford



Thomas A Wasow

Clarence Irving Lewis Professor in Philosophy and Professor of Linguistics, Emeritus and Academic Secretary to the University, Emeritus

Retiree

Bio

BIO

Tom Wasow joined the Stanford faculty as an Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Philosophy in 1973. He was educated at Reed College (BA in mathematics, 1967) and MIT (PhD in Linguistics, 1972). Between college and graduate school, he was a Fulbright fellow in Germany. Prior to coming to Stanford, he taught at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. His early research was on the theory of grammar, particularly syntax. Later, he did work in psycholinguistics, computational linguistics, and sociolinguistics. He is a fellow of both the Linguistic Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. At Stanford, he received the Dinkelspiel Award for contributions to undergraduate education, and was named a Bass Fellow in Undergraduate Education.

Wasow served as Dean of Undergraduate Studies from 1987 to 1991, as Associate Dean for Graduate Policy in the office of the Dean of Research (1996-2000), as Chair of the Faculty Senate (2003-2004), and, after retiring from the faculty, as Academic Secretary to the University (2017-2024). He also chaired the committee that created the Symbolic Systems Program, and chaired that program for a total of thirteen years between 1992 and 2015.

Aside from his work at Stanford, he has been active with organizations that provide housing and services to Bay Area people experiencing homelessness. He currently serves on the board of Abode Housing Development.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Emeritus Faculty, Retiree

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Flexible processing and the design of grammar.** *Journal of psycholinguistic research*
  Sag, I. A., Wasow, T.
  2015; 44 (1): 47-63
- **The appeal of the PDC program.** *Frontiers in psychology*
  Wasow, T.
  2013; 4: 236-?
- **The sociolinguistics of a short-lived innovation: Tracing the development of quotative all across spoken and internet newsgroup data** *LANGUAGE VARIATION AND CHANGE*
  Buchstaller, I., Rickford, J. R., Traugott, E. C., Wasow, T., Zwicky, A.
  2010; 22 (2): 191-219

- **Intensive and quotative all: Something old, something new** *AMERICAN SPEECH*
  Rickford, J. R., Wasow, T., Zwicky, A., Buchstaller, I.
  2007; 82 (1): 3-31
- **Intuitions in linguistic argumentation** *LINGUA*
  Wasow, T., Arnold, J.
  2005; 115 (11): 1481-1496
- **The puzzle of ambiguity** *2nd Workshop on Morphology held in Memory of Steven G Lapointe*
  Wasow, T., Perfors, A., Beaver, D.
  CSLI PUBL, CTR STUDY LANGUAGE INFORMATION.2005: 265–282
- **Avoiding attachment ambiguities: The role of constituent ordering** *JOURNAL OF MEMORY AND LANGUAGE*
  Arnold, J. E., Wasow, T., Asudeh, A., Alrenga, P.
  2004; 51 (1): 55-70
- **Domain minimization in English verb-particle constructions** *LANGUAGE*
  Lohse, B., Hawkins, J. A., Wasow, T.
  2004; 80 (2): 238-261
- **Heaviness vs. newness: The effects of structural complexity and discourse status on constituent ordering** *Meeting of the Linguistic-Society-of-America*
  Arnold, J. E., Wasow, T., Losongco, A., Ginstrom, R.
  LINGUISTIC SOC AMER.2000: 28–55
- **Repeating words in spontaneous speech** *COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY*
  Clark, H. H., Wasow, T.
  1998; 37 (3): 201-242
- **End-weight from the speaker's perspective** *9th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing*
  Wasow, T.
  PLENUM PUBL CORP.1997: 347–61
- **An optimality theoretic approach to variation in negative inversion in AAVE** *23rd Annual Conference on New Ways of Analysing Variation*
  Sells, P., Rickford, J., Wasow, T.
  SPRINGER.1996: 591–627
- **SYNTACTIC VARIATION AND CHANGE IN PROGRESS - LOSS OF THE VERBAL CODA IN TOPIC-RESTRICTING AS FAR AS CONSTRUCTIONS** *LANGUAGE*
  RICKFORD, J. R., MendozaDenton, N., WASOW, T. A., ESPINOZA, J.
  1995; 71 (1): 102-131
- **IDIOMS** *LANGUAGE*
  Nunberg, G., Sag, I. A., Wasow, T.
  1994; 70 (3): 491-538
- **DEBATABLE CONSTRAINTS** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
  Wasow, T.
  1991; 14 (4): 636-636
- **WHY DEGREE-0** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
  Wasow, T.
  1989; 12 (2): 361-362
- **THE WIZARDS OF LING** *NATURAL LANGUAGE & LINGUISTIC THEORY*
  Wasow, T.
  1985; 3 (4): 485-491
- **COORDINATION AND HOW TO DISTINGUISH CATEGORIES** *NATURAL LANGUAGE & LINGUISTIC THEORY*
  Sag, I. A., GAZDAR, G., Wasow, T., Weisler, S.

1985; 3 (2): 117-171

- **COORDINATION AND TRANSFORMATIONAL-GRAMMAR** *LINGUISTIC INQUIRY*
  GAZDAR, G., Pullum, G. K., Sag, I. A., Wasow, T.
  1982; 13 (4): 663-677
- **CATEGORY AUX IN UNIVERSAL GRAMMAR** *LINGUISTIC INQUIRY*
  AKMAJIAN, A., Steele, S. M., Wasow, T.
  1979; 10 (1): 1-64
- **CONSTRAINING CLASS OF TRANSFORMATIONAL LANGUAGES** *SYNTHESE*
  Wasow, T.
  1978; 39 (1): 81-104
- **MORE ON HAVE GOT** *LINGUISTIC INQUIRY*
  Wasow, T.
  1977; 8 (4): 772-776
- **REVIEW OF CONJECTURES AND REFUTATIONS IN SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS BY BRAME,MICHAEL,K** *LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS*
  Wasow, T.
  1977; 3 (4): 377-395
- **TASK-SPECIFICITY AND SPECIES-SPECIFICITY IN STUDY OF LANGUAGE - METHODOLOGICAL NOTE** *COGNITION*
  Osherson, D. N., Wasow, T.
  1976; 4 (2): 203-214
- **MCCAWLEY ON GENERATIVE SEMANTICS - REVIEW OF GRAMMAR AND MEANING BY MCCAWLEY,JD** *LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS*
  Wasow, T.
  1976; 2 (3): 279-301
- **CONSTITUENT STRUCTURE OF VP AND AUX AND POSITION OF VERB BE** *LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS*
  AKMAJIAN, A., Wasow, T.
  1975; 1 (3): 205-245
- **ANAPHORIC PRONOUNS AND BOUND VARIABLES** *LANGUAGE*
  Wasow, T.
  1975; 51 (2): 368-383